

## NATIONAL DAILY PRESS REVIEW MARCH 3-31, 2014

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### American Embassy's National Daily Press Review

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### American Embassy's National Daily Press Review

MARCH 31, 2014

#### Today's Top Stories

1. Health Minister denies case of Ebola virus in western Cote d'Ivoire
2. Opposition FPI party says dialogue and reconciliation process are in impasse
3. West African leaders wrapped up Summit in Yamoussoukro, elect Ghanaian president as new chairman
4. Cote d'Ivoire and Cape Verde prime ministers sign agreements to foster bilateral relations
5. U.S. Ambassador Terence McCulley inaugurates American Corner, court house in Bouake

#### 1. Health Minister denies case of Ebola virus in western Cote d'Ivoire

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493983.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/affaire-virus-d-ebola-decouvert-a-guiglo-y-a-t-il-eu-un-cas-voici-toute-la-verite-16330.html>
- <http://www.linfodrome.com/sante-bien-etre/15244-guiglo-fievre-d-ebola-le-prefet-kone-messamba-aucun-cas-n-a-ete-decouvert-dans-la-region-du-cavally>

A reported case of Ebola in Toulepleu, in western Cote d'Ivoire, has being denied by the Minister of Health Raymonde Coffi-Goudou reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 10)**. "There is no case of Ebola neither in Toulepleu nor Guiglo," the minister is reported as saying. "I want to assure the population that the situation is under control and all entries between Cote d'Ivoire and Guinea are being monitored." However, the minister added that if the situation changes, they will keep the population informed. According to the paper, the minister was speaking at the meeting of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and encouraged the population to follow health warnings given by the government.

The prefet of Toulepleu Abdoul Karim Diarra is quoted in **Le Nouveau Reveil (pp. 2&3)** as confirming that no cases of Ebola have been reported in the region. The paper also reports the mayor of the town, Denis Kah Zion, as saying that rumors about the disease are harmful and designed to undermine development in the region.

**Le Jour Plus (p. 3)** adds that ECOWAS heads meeting over the weekend in Cote d'Ivoire committed \$250,000 to fight Ebola in the sub-region.

#### 2. Opposition FPI party says dialogue and reconciliation process are in impasse

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493984.html>
- <http://www.icilome.com/nouvelles/news.asp?id=1&idnews=779022>
- <http://koaci.com/cote-divoire-demande-demission-dhamed-bakayoko-dissolution-cdvr-90834.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/cote-d-ivoire-l-opposition-pro-qbaqbo-radicalise-son-discours-denonce-les-quot-derives-totalitaires-quot-d-abidjan-16324.html>

A meeting of the executive committee of the opposition FPI party over the weekend on the current political situation in Cote d'Ivoire is widely covered in today's papers. A statement is published in opposition paper **Notre Voie (pp. 3&5)** from the party, announcing its decision to organize

demonstrations to protest what they see as a “dictatorship” under President Alassane Ouattara that includes “torture of political prisoners” and an impasse by the Dialogue, Truth and Reconciliation Commission (CDVR). Regarding the reconciliation process, the paper reports the party as saying that the reconciliation process has failed due to the lack of willingness to advance the process on the part of the commission chairman, Charles Konan Banny. The paper also accused Banny of making no effort to make the CDVR independent from the government. In a related story, *L’Inter* (p. 3) reports the leader of the youth branch of the FPI Justin Koua as saying, “This regime must fall.” According to the paper, at a meeting in Yopougon, Koua also called on the population to throw out census workers from their homes. In addition, Koua said that, “After the transfer of Charles Ble Goude to the ICC, the time for speeches is over.” According to *L’Expression* (p. 4) the spokesperson for the RDR party of President Ouattara, Joel N’Guessan, responded to call for demonstrations by the FPI by asking, “Are they ready to assume responsibility of the consequences of their declaration?” He also asked, “Who are they counting on to cause this mayhem in the country?”

### 3. West African leaders wrapped up Summit in Yamoussoukro, elect Ghanaian president as new chairman

- <http://www.fratmat.info/politique/item/14258-pr%C3%A9sidence-de-la-cedeao-john-dramani-succ%C3%A8de-%C3%A0-alassane-ouattara>
- <http://www.linodrome.com/vie-politique/15243-presidence-en-exercice-de-la-cedeao-john-dramani-succede-a-alassane-ouattara>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493922.html>
- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6485-john-dramani-mahama-elu-a-la-tete-de-la-cedeao.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/cedeao-john-dramani-mahama-s-inscrit-dans-la-continue-des-actions-de-ouattara-16273.html>
- <http://fr.africatime.com/cote-d-ivoire/articles/le-president-ghaneen-mahama-succede-livorien-ouattara-la-tete-de-la-cedeao>

Leaders from the 15 countries that comprise ECOWAS met over the weekend in Yamoussoukro reports *Fraternite Matin* (pp.4-6), focusing on peace, security and the plan for a single currency in the region. The summit also saw the president of Ghana, John Dramani Mahama, being elected to replace Ivoirian president Ouattara as head of the commission. Speaking at the closing ceremony, Mahama said that he will focus on three priorities including peace and security with a special emphasis on the fight against Boko Haram in Nigeria. He also said that he will work to advance economic development in the region and the creation of infrastructure projects such as the construction of a regional highway linking Lagos to Abidjan.

### 4. Cote d’Ivoire and Cape Verde prime ministers sign agreement to foster bilateral relations

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493987.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/signature-de-quatre-accords-entre-la-cote-d-ivoire-et-le-cap-vert-16323.html>
- <http://www.fratmat.info/une/item/14294-coop%C3%A9ration-bilat%C3%A9rale-la-c%C3%B4te-d%E2%80%99ivoire-et-le-cap-vert-signent-4-accords>
- <http://ladiplomatiqedabidjan.com/index.php/economie/item/1574-renforcement-de-leur-cooperation-la-cote-d-ivoire-et-le-cap-vert-signent-4-accords-de-partenariat>

Ivoirian Prime Minister Daniel Kablan Duncan and his counterpart from Cape Verde, Jose Maria Pereira Neves, met over the weekend reports *Fraternite Matin* (p. 7). The two signed several agreements to promote bilateral relations between the two countries. According to Duncan, the first agreement is aimed at creating a joint committee to discuss bilateral issues. The other agreements are related to maritime issues and the protection and promotion of the two countries. The paper says that Neves also took the opportunity to congratulate Cote d’Ivoire on efforts to reestablish peace and social cohesion in the country.

## 5. U.S. Ambassador Terence McCulley inaugurates American Corner, court house in Bouake

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493925.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/l-ambassadeur-des-usa-en-cote-d-ivoire-m-terence-mc-culley-et-m-gnenema-mamadou-coulibaly-ont-inaugure-les-nouveaux-bureaux-annexes-du-tribunal-de-premiere-instance-de-bouake-16259.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493927.html>
- <http://www.5minutesinfos.net/lambassadeur-terence-p-mcculley-usa-depuis-bouake-aux-magistrats-pays-continue-renforcer-letat-droit-bonne-gouvernance/>
- <http://www.tafnews.net/pageReader.php?pageId=6&articleId=7590>

A report in the weekend issue of **L'Intelligent d'Abidjan (p. 8)** says that the Minister of Justice, Mamadou Gnenema Coulibaly and U.S. Ambassador to Cote d'Ivoire Terence McCulley came together on Friday to inaugurate the extension of the Court of First Instance in Bouake. The paper reports the ambassador as saying that Cote d'Ivoire is "on the right track." "Peace and stability have been restored and there are more economic and commercial opportunities," the Ambassador is further quoted as saying.

A report in **L'Expression (p. 5)** says that Ambassador McCulley also inaugurated the office of ProJustice, an NGO whose role is to help reinforce the judicial system in Cote d'Ivoire. The paper also reports that projects to be implemented by ProJustice will be financed by USAID. "We will soon launch a project to support the Independent Electoral Commission in order to help this institution to prepare for the 2015 presidential election," Ambassador McCulley said.

In opposition paper **Le Temps (p. 3)**, the paper claims that Ambassador McCulley denounced the problem of "victors' justice" in Cote d'Ivoire. The paper quotes the Ambassador as saying, "President Ouattara has promised that all those who are responsible for serious crimes must be brought to justice and there cannot be winners' justice in Cote d'Ivoire." He is further quoted as saying, "The government at all levels must live up to this promise to demonstrate its commitment to justice for all abuses committed."

### International Stories on Cote d'Ivoire

#### [W African leaders fail to agree on EU trade deal](#)

Gulf Times

But Ivory Coast and Ghana, which send the bulk of their exports - including most of the world's cocoa - to Europe risk being hit hard as their interim ...

#### [Cote d'Ivoire: ECOWAS lifts infrastructure development with Treaty signing](#)

African Manager

The treaty was signed Saturday by the Presidents or representatives of the five countries involved in the project - Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria ...

#### [Cote d'Ivoire steps up surveillance over](#)

Coastweek

ABIDJAN (Xinhua) -- Cote d'Ivoire's health authorities on Tuesday announced new surveillance measures at the Abidjan airport and western regions ...

[NVBC 2014 Highlight - Film Adaptation Of Ivorian Graphic Novel 'Aya de Yopougon' Makes Its New](#)

...

Indie Wire (blog)

The highly anticipated film adaptation of Ivory Coast-born/France-based author Marguerite Abouet's popular graphic novel series, Aya de Yopougon ...

[ECOWAS Condemns Boko Haram Violent Acts](#)

THISDAY Live

President of Cote D'Ivoire and outgoing Chairman of ECOWAS Authority of Heads of State and Government, Alassane Outtara, Friday condemned the ...

[Why formal trade in Africa lags, while informal prospers](#)

How we made it in Africa

According to George, Ghana's official exports to Côte d'Ivoire last year were less than 1% of its total exports. Considering that Côte d'Ivoire is Ghana's ...

**[Media affiliation and circulation](#)**

***(Newspaper circulation figures represent average number of copies sold daily. Latest numbers as of December 31, 2013.)***

[Fraternite Matin](#)

Government-owned and controlled daily newspaper with the widest circulation

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Independent daily that publishes mostly balanced news

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Government-run news agency

[ONU CI FM](#)

UN-owned radio operated by the UN Operation in Cote d'Ivoire

[RTI Television](#)

Government-run television and radio conglomerate

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1. **Ble Goude makes first appearance at the ICC**
2. IMF commends Ivorian government for economic growth and announces more funding
3. ECOWAS heads of state meet today in Yamoussoukro
4. Government to take steps to better regulate housing sector
5. Government orders investigation into emergency health care services after death of Ivorian model

### 1. Ble Goude makes first appearance at the ICC

- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6461-ble-goude-proche-de-gbagbo-clame-son-innocence-devant-la-cpi.html>
- <http://www.fratmat.info/politique/item/14183-charles-bl%C3%A9-qoud%C3%A9-%C3%A0-sa-comparution-que-je-sois-d%C3%A9clar%C3%A9-innocent>
- <http://www.linfordrome.com/vie-politique/15211-ble-goude-raconte-l-histoire-des-photos-et-la-soupe-qu-il-mangeait>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493711.html>
- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6457-l-ivoirien-ble-goude-comparait-pour-la-premiere-fois-devant-la-cpi.html>
- <http://fr.africatime.com/cote-d-ivoire/articles/ble-goude-proche-de-gbagbo-clame-son-innocence-devant-la-cpi>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493789.html>

The appearance yesterday by former opposition youth leader Charles Ble Goude before the International Criminal Court (ICC) is widely covered in today's newspapers. The account in opposition papers is that Ble Goude "revealed the true face of the Ivoirian government." **Le Temps (pp. 4- 5)** reports that Ble Goude claims to have been kidnapped by the government, held in inhumane conditions and that his "basic human rights were violated," including a ten day period when he was not allowed to wear clothes. The paper says that Ble Goude appeared "confident" during the hearing and quotes him as saying, "I will be back to my country."

According to **Le Nouveau Courrier (pp. 3-5)**, Ble Goude recommitted himself to former Ivoirian president Laurent Gbagbo, saying "I am a Gbagbo supporter and proud of it." **Notre Voie (pp. 2-5)** adds that Ble Goude said he was happy to be at the ICC to "allow the truth to triumph." In a related commentary, the paper says that the "impartiality of the ICC is at stake" in how it handles the Ble Goude case.

In reaction to Ble Goude's appearance, **Soir Info (pp. 2-4)** reports that Mamadou Toure, an advisor to President Alassane Ouattara, said that his appearance was "like theatre." In an interview, Toure said that the claims of mistreatment by Ble Goude are "lies" as he has met on several occasions with Ble Goude's attorney who has never voiced these complaints. Pro-government newspaper **Le Patriote (pp. 2-3)** adds that the pictures of Ble Goude from the ICC "do not look like someone who has been mistreated." **Le Nouveau Reveil (pp. 2-3)** observes that Ble Goude was speaking as if he was addressing a rally of supporters but that the ICC is a much different venue.

Government newspaper **Fraternite Matin (p. 7)** reports that the hearing for the confirmation of charges against Ble Goude has been set for August 18.

## 2. IMF commends Ivorian government for economic growth and announces more funding

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493791.html>
- <http://www.linfordrome.com/economie/15221-economie-nationale-les-critiques-du-fmi-apres-deux-semaines-de-mission>
- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6455-cote-d-ivoire-le-fmi-les-perspectives-macroeconomiques-pour-2014-demeurent.html>
- <http://fr.africatime.com/cote-d-ivoire/articles/cote-divoire-le-fmi-satisfait-des-performances-macro-economiques>
- <http://fr.africatime.com/cote-d-ivoire/articles/viabilite-des-finances-publiques-ivoiriennes-le-fmi-emet-des-reserves>

Following a fact finding mission by a team from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), *L'Intelligent d'Abidjan* (p. 3), reports that the IMF commended the country for its economic growth. Noting that the economy had grown 8.7 percent last year while inflation held steady, the IMF team said that the results were "better than expected."

As a result of the economic achievement by Cote d'Ivoire, *Fraternite Matin* (p. 14) reports that the IMF will approve more funding for projects in the country. An additional CFA 35 billion (\$73 million) of funding will be mobilized by June of this year. The head of the IMF delegation, Michael Lazare, called on Cote d'Ivoire to continue on the current path and work to improve the standard of living for all Ivoirians.

## 3. ECOWAS heads of state meet today in Yamoussoukro

- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/arrivee-a-yamoussoukro-de-neuf-chefs-d-etat-pour-le-44e-sommet-de-la-cedeao-16126.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493790.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/44eme-sommet-de-la-cedeao-neuf-chefs-d-etat-ont-foule-le-sol-ivoirien-dans-la-soiree-16106.html>

Beginning today, heads of state from member countries of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) are meeting in the Ivoirian political capital of Yamoussoukro. The 44<sup>th</sup> gathering of the organization, reports *Fraternite Matin* (pp. 4-5), will focus on economic issues, in particular a proposed agreement for a closer relationship with the European Union. Security issues, including maritime security, will also be discussed. Also during the meeting, the paper notes, President Ouattara will official step down as head of the organization after two years as ECOWAS president. *Nord Sud Quotiden* (p. 5) notes that the election for the new chair of the body will take place on Saturday.

## 4. Government to take steps to better regulate housing sector

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493788.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/la-caution-du-logement-ne-devra-plus-exceder-deux-mois-ministre-16117.html>
- <http://fr.africatime.com/cote-d-ivoire/articles/la-caution-du-logement-ne-devra-plus-exceder-deux-mois-ministre>
- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6467-mamadou-sanogo-la-caution-du-logement-ne-devra-plus-exceder-deux-mois.html>

Minister of Housing and Construction Mamadou Sanogo yesterday announced new measures to better protect renters and improve housing issues in the country reports *Nord Sud Quotiden* (p. 11). The measures include regulating exorbitant housing deposits to just two months' worth of rent. The minister says that this and other measures will also help to reduce the price of renting a home across the country and will also help to reduce land disputes. The paper notes that Cote d'Ivoire is taking lessons from Senegal and reforms made to its housing sector. In addition, CFA 45 billion (\$94 million) has been contributed by international partners to help the government with the new reforms.



Sanogo said that there is a deficit of 400,000 homes in Cote d'Ivoire reports ***Le Nouveau Reveil (p. 7)***. He added that the government is working to address this issue through these reforms and increased regulation. This new regulation will also ensure higher safety standards for new construction.

#### International Stories on Cote d'Ivoire

##### [Suspect in Ivory Coast election deaths faces court](#)

Washington Post

THE HAGUE, Netherlands — A former youth leader accused of involvement in murder, rapes and persecution during violence after Ivory Coast's 2010 ...

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##### [Côte d'Ivoire's Middle Class - Growing or Disappearing?](#)

AllAfrica.com

Côte d'Ivoire used to have the strongest middle class in West Africa until it was seriously hit by the post-1980 economic meltdown and the recent ...

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##### [Ivorians pin financial hopes on return of African bank](#)

[www.worldbulletin.net](http://www.worldbulletin.net)

"The bank will be returning to its statutory headquarters in Ivory Coast, which is a major victory for us as a government and a sign that normalcy has ...

##### [Impartial justice key to reconciliation in Côte d'Ivoire ahead of polls – UN expert](#)

UN News Centre

27 March 2014 – The United Nations independent expert tasked with assessing the human rights situation in Côte d'Ivoire, expressed concern over ...

##### [Cote d'Ivoire: Trading at the West African Bourse rises again](#)

African Manager

Trading at the West African regional stock exchange (BRVM) ended higher on Wednesday with the BRVM index 10 inching up from 252.11 to 252.43 ...

##### [African women push for equality in land and resource rights](#)

Thomson Reuters Foundation

More on: Human Rights. A woman works in a plantation of rubber seedlings in San Pedro, Ivory Coast, March 9, 2012. REUTERS/Thierry Gouegnon.

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2. Government-opposition dialogue does not break, government negotiator says
3. Human Rights Watch report after transfer of Ble Goude to ICC, UN independent human rights expert calls for equal justice
4. Movement of victims of 2002 rebellion in Cote d'Ivoire launched

#### 1. Ruling RDR party leader speaks political situation in Cote d'Ivoire

- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/le-rdr-ne-connaît-pas-de-guerre-de-clans-secretaire-general-16023.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493666.html>
- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6444-amadou-soumahoro-le-rdr-ne-connaît-pas-de-guerre-de-clans.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/le-quot-seul-cas-quot-du-transfèrement-de-ble-goude-a-la-haye-quot-pas-un-frein-au-processus-de-reconciliation-quot-amadou-soumahoro-16018.html>
- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6445-fauteuil-blanc-amado-soumahoro-il-s-agit-d-une-candidature-unique-au-sein-du.html>

The head of the ruling RDR party, Amadou Soumahoro, spoke at a press conference yesterday about the 2015 presidential election reports **Le Nouveau Reveil (pp. 2-10)**. "No one party can win the election in the first round," the paper reports the head of President Alassane Ouattara's party as saying, justifying the need for a coalition. He also announced that the RDR party will be holding a convention next year. In addition, Soumahoro is quoted as saying that, since his election, President Ouattara has distanced himself from party activities in order to devote his time to running the country.

On the opposition side, **Aujourd'hui (p. 5)** says that Soumahoro has "rejected" a suggested reform by fellow RHDP coalition member the PDCI party to create a vice president position in the country. The paper quotes Soumahoro as saying that the "creation of a post of vice president is inopportune at this time."

#### 2. Government-opposition dialogue does not break, government negotiator says

Despite the claims to the contrary by the leader of the opposition FPI party earlier this week, **Le Nouveau Reveil (p. 13)** reports that former Prime Minister Jeannot Ahoussou Kouadio says the dialogue between the government and opposition will continue. Earlier this week, FPI president Pascal Affi N'Guessan announced an end to the dialogue after the transfer of Charles Ble Goude to the International Criminal Court (ICC). However, the paper quotes Kouadio as saying, "The government will never end the dialogue with the opposition." He also reportedly announced that the ruling RHDP coalition and the opposition FPI party will be "meeting soon" as part of the ongoing dialogue.

#### 3. Human Rights Watch report after transfer of Ble Goude to ICC, UN independent human rights expert calls for equal justice

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493646.html>
- <http://fr.africatime.com/cote-d-ivoire/articles/apres-la-remise-de-ble-goude-la-cpi-doudou-diene-appelle-lequite-de-la-justice>
- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6431-apres-la-remise-de-ble-goude-a-la-cpi-doudou-diene-appelle-a-l-equite-de-la-justice.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/apres-la-remise-de-ble-goude-a-la-cpi-doudou-diene-appelle-a-l-equite-de-la-justice-15980.html>

Following the transfer of Ble Goude to The Hague, ***L'Intelligent d'Abidjan* (p. 5)** reports that international watchdog group Human Rights Watch has released a report lauding the transfer. "The arrival of Ble Goude at The Hague constitutes an important step forward for the presumed victims to know the truth about what they suffered during the post-electoral crisis." The report also called for "equitable justice for people accused of crimes." In addition, the report indicates that despite the transfer of Ble Goude, "The work of the courts in Cote d'Ivoire is not yet over," and that "Victims from both side want to see perpetrators of crimes brought to justice." On the opposition side, ***LG Infos* (p. 7)** claims that, due to the demand for equal justice, Human Rights Watch also wants current National Assembly President Guillaume Soro to be transferred to The Hague. This paper also claims that during the post-electoral crisis, Soro was the Prime Minister and Minister of Defense who was supervising President Ouattara's troops. In addition, the paper alleges that Dozos (traditional Ivoirian hunters), who were fighting alongside Soro's forces, massacred more than 800 people in the western region of Cote d'Ivoire.

In a related story, ***L'Inter* (p. 3)**, quotes UN independent human rights expert Doudou Diene as also calling for "equitable justice" in Cote d'Ivoire. According to the paper, Diene was interviewed by UN radio in Abidjan this week where he said, "All perpetrators of serious crimes should be prosecuted without taking into account their ethnic, religious or political background."

***Notre Voie* (p. 2)** adds that Ble Goude is expected to appear today for the first time before the ICC, five days after being transferred to The Hague to face a variety of charges.

#### **4. Movement of victims of 2002 rebellion in Cote d'Ivoire launched**

***Aujourd'hui* (p. 4)** carries today a statement issued by Yaya Soriba Konate announcing the creation of an association of victims of the 2002 rebellion. The statement says that the movement will soon bring a legal suit against Guillaume Soro and several former warlords for perpetrating deadly attacks against Ivoirians. In addition, the statement says that it will demand reparations for properties destroyed, women raped and security forces killed during the rebellion in northern Cote d'Ivoire.

[International Stories on Cote d'Ivoire](#)

[Ivory Coast on alert for Ebola virus](#)

[www.worldbulletin.net](http://www.worldbulletin.net)

Health authorities in Ivory Coast set up a coordination center in the western part of the country to supervise prevention measures after 80 cases of ...

[Will justice ever be even-handed?](#)

The Economist (blog)

ON MARCH 22nd Charles Blé Goudé (pictured), an Ivorian widely known as the "street general", was flown from the Ivory Coast to The Hague, to be ...

[Refugee camp closed in Liberia as return to Côte d'Ivoire gathers momentum](#)

Thomson Reuters Foundation

Solo was one of six refugee camps established during the crisis that followed the disputed presidential election in Côte d'Ivoire in late 2010, forcing ...

[Public institutions urged to strengthen information and record management structures](#)

BusinessDay

The participants made up of over 100 state and non-state actors from Cote d'Ivoire, Kenya, Liberia, Niger, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Uganda ...

[Parties to the Abidjan Convention Agree to Boost Cooperation On Marine Challenges](#)

AllAfrica.com

Cote d'Ivoire: Parties to the Abidjan Convention Agree to Boost Cooperation On Marine Challenges.  
26 March 2014. press release. Cape Town ...

[West African countries look to adopt, coordinate cyberlaws](#)

CFOworld

In the region, only Cote d'Ivoire, The Gambia, Ghana and Senegal have passed cyberlaws, according to representatives who attended UNCTAD ...

[IMF Opens Second West Africa Center to Build Capacity in Region](#)

International Monetary Fund

The new center serves Ghana, Cabo Verde, Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, and The Gambia. It joins four existing centers—in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire; ...

Media affiliation and circulation

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## American Embassy's National Daily Press Review

MARCH 26, 2014

### Today's Top Stories

1. To prevent Ebola outbreak in Cote d'Ivoire, government bans bush meats
2. President of National Assembly Soro joins campaign for President Ouattara's reelection
3. Opposition FPI party FPI and others form a coalition
4. Populations in western Cote d'Ivoire threaten to disrupt census
5. Ivoirian fruit production company commits millions of dollars to revamp sector
6. PEPFAR supports HIV test program
7. African Women Entrepreneurs forum to open tomorrow in Abidjan

#### 1. To prevent Ebola outbreak in Cote d'Ivoire, government bans bush meats

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493632.html>
- <http://www.fratmat.info/une/item/14105-%C3%A9pid%C3%A9mie-d%E2%80%99ebola-en-guin%C3%A9-mesures-de-protection-des-populations-ivoiriennes-%C3%A0-risque>
- <http://www.linodrome.com/sante-bien-etre/15187-epidemie-de-la-fievre-d-ebola-en-guinee-les-prefets-des-regions-frontalieres-impliques-dans-la-sensibilisation>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/fievre-ebola-les-populations-ivoiriennes-exhortees-a-eviter-la-consommation-des-rongeurs-15952.html>
- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6417-fievre-ebola-creation-d-un-poste-avance-de-coordination-a-la-frontiere-ivoiro.html>
- <http://fr.africatime.com/cote-d-ivoire/articles/cote-divoire-sante-le-gouvernement-reaqit-voici-comment-eviter-lebola>

In order to discourage the spread of the Ebola virus from neighboring Guinea, reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 13)**, the Ivoirian government has banned the consumption of "bush meat" or wild animals. This was announced by the Minister of Health and the Fight against HIV/AIDS, Dr. Raymonde Koffi-Goudou. Included in the list are bat, rat, porcupine and chimpanzee, among other wild animals that could be carriers of the virus and other diseases. She also said that regional government leaders have been encouraged to share information with local populations on the ban. The director of the National Institute for Public Diseases, Dr. N'danan N'cho is quoted in **Aujourd'hui (p. 8)** as saying that the risk of an outbreak of the disease in Cote d'Ivoire is very high. He said that the government is planning on putting into place measures in public and private health centers to identify and treat the disease.

The government measures to prevent the disease are mainly focused in the western region of the country that borders Guinea, reports **Nord-Sud Quotidien (p. 6)**. The paper also notes that the regional government leader in Man, in western Cote d'Ivoire has put into place a committee and task force dedicated to the disease.

#### 2. President of National Assembly Soro joins campaign for President Ouattara's reelection

- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/candidature-unique-de-ouattara-en-2015-guillaume-soro-quot-satisfait-quot-de-ce-que-quot-l-idee-quot-prospere-de-plus-en-plus-15951.html>

The head of the National Assembly, Guillaume Soro, announced that he will join a group of parliamentarians called G25, which is dedicated to the reelection of President Alassane Ouattara reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 8)**. The group, the paper reports, led by National Assembly member Basile Fregbo, met with Soro yesterday to discuss their strategy for the 2015 presidential election. Speaking at the meeting, Soro called for a single candidate from the ruling RHPD coalition so that President Ouattara could be elected in the first round of voting.

"I am honored to support G25 in its campaign for a single candidate within the RHDP and the reelection of President Ouattara," Soro is quoted as saying in **Le Patriote (p. 5)**. According to the paper, G25 is made up of members from both the president's RDR party and the PDCI party. A report in **L'Intelligent d'Abidjan (p. 4)** says that Soro has also called on Ivoirian civil society to join the G25 effort for peaceful elections in 2015.

### **3. Opposition FPI party FPI and others form a coalition**

On the opposition side, the FPI party announced the formation of a larger opposition coalition called Opposition Party Alliance (APO) reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 9)**. APO will be comprised of the FPI, the Ivoirian Workers Party (PIT) and several other smaller opposition parties. According to the paper, APO will be formally unveiled today at the FPI headquarters in Abidjan. The paper quotes sources close to the party as saying that the alliance will "counter government decisions and bring the government to accept the national forum for reconciliation proposed by FPI."

Opposition party newspaper **Notre Voie (p. 2)** quotes Bertin Ganin, a leading member of the opposition as saying that, "Membership of the alliance is open to all political parties in Cote d'Ivoire."

### **4. Populations in western Cote d'Ivoire threaten to disrupt census**

Populations in the western Ivoirian cities of Guiglo, Duekoue and Gagnoa have threatened to disrupt the national census reports **Le Jour Plus (p. 4)**. "We will chase out census workers from our houses," the paper quotes people from the region as saying. According to the paper, residents of the region are responding to a call by the opposition FPI party to boycott the census.

### **5. Ivoirian fruit production company commits millions of dollars to revamp sector**

L'OBAM-CI, a private company that produces bananas, pineapples, mangos and other fruit in Cote d'Ivoire has pledged to invest CFA 26 billion (\$55 million) in order to improve the sector reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 15)**. Charles Fabre, company president, made this announcement yesterday after a meeting yesterday with Prime Minister Daniel Kablan Duncan. According to Fabre, the project will take place over the next four years and will enable smaller fruit producers to be more successful.

### **6. PEPFAR supports HIV test program**

A report in **Le Jour Plus (p. 7)** reports that health NGO EngenderHealth is organizing a workshop in Abidjan on HIV testing. The program is supported by the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) as part of a project called, "Men as Partners." The program is designed for married couples in order to help them understand the importance of testing as a way to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS.

### **7. African Women Entrepreneurs forum to open tomorrow in Abidjan**

A two-day forum for women entrepreneurs opens tomorrow in Abidjan reports **Le Patriote (p. 11)**. According to the paper, Massogbe Diabate Toure, president of the African Women Entrepreneurship Program (AWEP), made the announcement at a press conference yesterday where she said female entrepreneurs from many African countries will be present.

The forum, reports **LG Infos (p. 4)**, will focus on the role of female entrepreneurs in social and economic development in Africa. The event is being organized in cooperation with the U.S. Embassy in Cote d'Ivoire. The paper adds that AWEP is an initiative launched by the U.S. Department of State in July 2010 to identify and encourage female entrepreneurs in sub-Saharan Africa.

[International Stories on Cote d'Ivoire](#)

[Over 9000 primates killed for single bushmeat market in West Africa every year](#)

Mongabay.com

In fact, many endemic primates in the Upper Guinea forests of Liberia and Ivory Coast have been pushed to the verge of extinction. To better ...

[State Presents Evidence](#)

## The News

Defense lawyers representing 18 persons indicted for their alleged involvement in mercenary activities in Ivory Coast in 2011, Monday announced that ...

### [Construction to begin next month on Niger – Benin railway](#)

International Railway Journal

The line will cost an estimated €1bn and forms part of a larger project intended to link the two countries with Burkina Faso and Ivory Coast. France's ...

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## American Embassy's National Daily Press Review

MARCH 25, 2014

### Today's Top Stories

1. **Debate on Ble Goude's transfer to ICC and reconciliation in Cote d'Ivoire continues**
2. **ECOWAS made significant progress under President Ouattara's stewardship, Commissioner says**
3. **Conference on shea butter opens in Abidjan**
4. **Nine drug dealers arrested in Abidjan**
5. **Paper alleges that France spied on Gbagbo**

#### 1. Debate on Ble Goude's transfer to ICC and reconciliation in Cote d'Ivoire continues

- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/ble-goude-a-la-cpi-avocats-et-gouvernement-le-debat-fait-rage-15872.html>
- <http://www.fratmat.info/politique/item/14070-le-d%C3%A9brief-bl%C3%A9-goud%C3%A9-et-son-transf%C3%A8rement>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493512.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493518.html>
- <http://fr.africainet.com/cote-d-ivoire/articles/lopposition-ivoirienne-denonce-le-transf%C3%A8rement-de-ble-goude-la-cpi>
- <http://www.linodrome.com/vie-politique/15167-transf%C3%A8rement-a-la-cpi-la-decision-du-gouvernement-a-ete-votee-au-conseil-des-ministres>

The transfer of Charles Ble Goude from Cote d'Ivoire to the International Criminal Court (ICC) continues to top headlines. While many papers speculate on the effect of his transfer on the reconciliation process in Cote d'Ivoire **Fraternite Matin (pp. 8&9)** calls it all a "tempest in a teapot." The paper notes that when former president Laurent Gbagbo was transferred to The Hague in November 2011, the reconciliation process continued and that this situation should be no different. The paper in its commentary says that "there can be no reconciliation without justice." In quoting a variety of leaders in civil society, the paper finds mixed views. The president of the Coalition of Young Patriots for Peace and Reconciliation (CJPPR) Zady Djedje is quoted as asking the opposition FPI party to accept the government's decision. Djedje also is reported as saying that the Ble Goude extradition will not stop the reconciliation process. The president of the Ivoirian Movement for Human Rights (MIDH), Doumbia Yacouba, is quoted as saying, "Reconciliation should not be contrary to the fight against impunity." The president of another human rights group, the Ivoirian League of Human Rights (LIDHO), Adjoumani Kouame, believes that "the transfer of Ble Goude to The Hague will definitely hinder national reconciliation."

The representative for FPI in Agboville, Edgar Serge Boka, accuses the government in **L'Inter (p. 4)** of having a "double standard." In the same paper (**p. 2**) they note that after the transfer of Ble Goude to The Hague, it is likely that the ICC will issue arrest warrants for other supporters of the former president.

Opposition paper **Le Nouveau Courrier (p. 4)**, features a different point of view from Djedje, quoting him as saying, "We could have tried Ble Goude here in Cote d'Ivoire." Djedje is also reported as saying that he met on several occasions with Ble Goude who was "committed to peace and reconciliation."

#### 2. ECOWAS made significant progress under President Ouattara's stewardship, Commissioner says

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493566.html>
- <http://www.fratmat.info/une/item/14088-cedeao-d%C3%A9sir%C3%A9-kadr%C3%A9-ou%C3%A9draogo-fait-le-point-des-pr%C3%A9paratifs-de-la-44e-session>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/le-president-de-la-commission-de-la-cedeao-recu-par-le-chef-de-l-etat-15865.html>

- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6407-le-president-de-la-commission-de-la-cedeao-recu-par-le-chef-de-l-etat.html>
- <http://www.fratmat.info/politique/item/14093-cedeao-d%C3%A9sir%C3%A9-kadr%C3%A9-ou%C3%A9draogo-fait-le-point-des-pr%C3%A9paratifs-de-la-44e-session>

Leaders from the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) are expected to meet in the Ivoirian political capital of Yamoussoukro this week as part of the 44<sup>th</sup> summit of the organization reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 6)**. Speaking ahead of the event, the chairman of the ECOWAS governing board, Desire Kadre Ouedraogo, said, "The support of President Ouattara has enabled the organization to make significant progress." Ouedragogo met yesterday in Abidjan with Ouattara, who will step down as president of ECOWAS after two years at the helm. The paper also quotes Ouedragogo as saying, "Ouattara's support has helped us make strides forward in politics, peace, security and economy."

### 3. Conference on shea butter opens in Abidjan

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493567.html>
- <http://www.fratmat.info/une/item/14094-karite%C3%A9-les-autorit%C3%A9s-annoncent-la-professionnalisation-de-la-fili%C3%A8re>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/le-gouvernement-ivoirien-entend-faire-de-la-filiere-karite-une-priorite-15876.html>
- <http://www.fratmat.info/economie/item/14091-fili%C3%A8re-karite%C3%A9-le-gouvernement-ivoirien-s%E2%80%99engage-%C3%A0-en-faire-une-priorit%C3%A9>
- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6406-7e-conference-sur-le-karite-le-gouvernement-veut-aider-les-acteurs-du-secteur.html>

The world conference of shea butter is taking place in Abidjan this week reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 14)**. The paper quotes Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy Cheryl Sim as saying during the opening ceremony of the conference yesterday, "The United States is committed to support durable economic growth in West Africa." The paper also reports that the conference is designed to find ways to develop the shea butter market at both the national and international levels and to make the market more competitive.

The United States has committed to supporting the shea butter industry through USAID projects reports **Le Nouveau Courrier (p. 11)**. The paper also reports that more than 400 experts from all over the world are taking part in the conference this week, working to find ways to increase shea butter sales.

### 4. Nine drug traffickers arrested in Abidjan

- <http://www.linfordrome.com/faits-et-mefaits/15173-aeroport-felix-houphouet-boigny-9-voyageurs-arretes-avec-400-boulettes-de-cocaine-dans-leur-estomac>

A report in **Fraternite Matin (p. 13)** says that police arrested yesterday at the Felix Houphouet Boigny International Airport nine suspected drug traffickers. According to the report, the traffickers had swallowed more than 400 capsules of cocaine with a value of CFA 150 million (\$316,373). The suspected traffickers included one Namibian, seven Nigerians and a national of Sao Tome and Principe. The group was in transit on Air Maroc from Brazil.

### 5. Paper alleges that France spied on Gbagbo

A report in **Le Nouveau Courrier (p. 6)** alleges that during the presidency of Laurent Gbagbo, French authorities were monitoring emails coming from Cote d'Ivoire. According to the paper, this was revealed in Canadian documents made public by Edward Snowden. The newspaper borrows most of the story from a write up in French newspaper **Le Monde**.

International Stories on Cote d'Ivoire

[24.03.14 - ICC/CÔTE D'IVOIRE – IVORIAN EX-MINISTER TRANSFERRED TO ICC](#)

Hirondelle

Côte d'Ivoire had asked the ICC to stay the transfer of the suspect, arguing that judicial procedures were being taken against him in the national courts.

[IMF Executive Board Concludes Article IV Consultation with West African Economic and Monetary](#)

...

AfricanBrains

Peaceful elections took place in Mali and Togo and further progress has been made towards normalization in Côte d'Ivoire. Regional growth remained ...

[Sama Completes Downhole Geophysics on Five Drill Holes at Yepleu and Samapleu Deposit ...](#)

Wall Street Journal

... ("DHEM") survey on five (5) holes at the Samapleu and newly discovered Yepleu nickel-copper-palladium Deposits in Côte d'Ivoire, West Africa.

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### Today's Top Stories

1. **Cote d'Ivoire sends ex-youth leader to ICC**
2. **Opposition party says transfer of ex-youth leader to ICC puts an end to political dialogue**
3. **Opposition youth leader arrested on Friday released**
4. **Sudan envoy urges President Ouattara to help resolve crisis in South Sudan**
5. **U.S. Embassy launches Spotlight SIDA program**
6. **Ivoirian government takes measures to prevent Ebola epidemic**
7. **AfDB head says bank's board of governors to return to Abidjan by July**

#### **1. Cote d'Ivoire sends ex-youth leader to ICC**

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493440.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/arrive-au-quartier-penitentiaire-de-la-cpi-charles-ble-goude-comparaitra-la-semaine-prochaine-15753.html>
- <http://fr.africatime.com/cote-d-ivoire/articles/cote-divoire-charles-ble-goude-proche-de-lex-president-qbagbo-rejoint-son-mentor-la-cpi>
- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6376-charles-ble-goude-transfere-a-la-haye-devant-la-cpi.html>
- <http://www.fratmat.info/politique/item/14020-justice-charles-bl%C3%A9-goud%C3%A9-transf%C3%A9r%C3%A9-%C3%A0-la-cpi-ce-samedi>

A statement issued on Saturday by the government on the transfer of former youth leader Charles Ble Goude to the International Criminal Court (ICC) is featured prominently today in most newspapers. **Fraternite Matin (p. 7)** reports that the brief statement says just that he was transferred over the weekend. The paper also features a statement from the ICC as saying that, "Charles Ble Goude will appear before judges this week." The statement goes on to say that Ble Goude has been charged with murder, rape and sexual violence committed during the 2011 post-electoral crisis. Another report in this paper quotes lead ICC prosecutor Fatou Bensouda as saying, "Those who use violence and crime as a way to obtain power must be held accountable." She is also quoted as saying, "Ivoirian victims who suffered seriously need to know the truth."

Ble Goude is likely to appear before ICC judges on Friday reports **Le Nouveau Reveil (p. 6)**. The paper also publishes a document released by the ICC outlining Ble Goude's list of crimes including "persecution and other inhumane acts." A report in **Nord-Sud Quotidien (pp. 2&3)** quotes Bensouda as saying that the transfer of Ble Goude does not put an end to investigations in Cote d'Ivoire. **Le Patriote (pp. 2&3)** quotes Ivoirian attorney Diane Mamdou as saying that, by accepting the transfer of Ble Goude to the ICC, Ivoirian President Alassane Ouattara is fighting for victims.

On the opposition side, **Le Temps (pp. 4-5)** reports that after Ble Goude, Bensouda will be targeting current president of the National Assembly, Guillaume Soro, and former warlords. The paper also reports that with the transfer, President Ouattara has shown his "refusal to commit to dialogue."

#### **2. Opposition party says transfer of ex-youth leader to ICC puts an end to political dialogue**

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493508.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/le-transferelement-de-ble-goude-a-la-cpi-constitue-une-entrave-grave-a-la-reconciliation-selon-le-fpi-15803.html>
- <http://fr.africatime.com/cote-d-ivoire/articles/cote-divoire-lopposition-pro-qbagbo-denonce-une-rupture-du-dialogue-par-le-gouvernement>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493442.html>
- <http://www.linodrome.com/vie-politique/15146-apres-le-transferelement-de-ble-goude-le-fpi-rompt-le-dialogue>

After the transfer of Ble Goude to the ICC, the Ivoirian opposition party, the FPI, announced on Saturday the end of the dialogue with the government reports **Soir Info (p. 7)**. The paper quotes Laurent Akoun, party spokesperson, as saying, "This transfer constitutes an immovable obstacle to national reconciliation." **Notre Voie (p. 2)** carries a statement from the party in which it also denounces the government's plan to operate a "unilateral population census." The statement also says that the dialogue, truth and reconciliation process underway in the country has "failed" and it deplored the continued detention of 800 political prisoners including former first lady Simone Gbagbo.

**Le Nouveau Reveil (p. 8)** carries a reaction from ruling RDR party spokesperson Joel N'Guessan as saying that reconciliation must not be a justification for impunity.

### **3. Opposition youth leader arrested on Friday released**

On Friday, the leader of the FPI youth organization, Justin Koua, and other members of the party were arrested during a demonstration outside a court working on the Ble Goude case reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 9)**. The paper reports that they were then released the following day. Koua is quoted after his release in **Soir Info (p. 4)** as calling for street demonstrations to protest the Ble Goude transfer.

Members of the "Young Patriot" movement, another pro-opposition group organized a demonstration in Yopougon on Saturday reports **Notre Voie (p. 4)**. According to the paper, police used tear gas to disperse the demonstrators.

### **4. Sudan envoy urges President Ouattara to help resolve crisis in South Sudan**

- <http://fr.africatime.com/cote-d-ivoire/articles/alassane-ouattara-assure-que-sa-convalescence-est-quasiment-terminee>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/p/181122.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493336.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493319.html>

An envoy from Sudan, Taha Osman, visited President Ouattara over the weekend, asking him to help resolve the on-going crisis in South Sudan reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 6)**. "Sudan wants President Ouattara to play an important role in the relations between Sudan and South Sudan," the paper quotes Osman as saying.

### **5. U.S. Embassy launches Spotlight SIDA program**

- <http://www.fratmat.info/societe/item/13998-lutte-contre-le-sida-la-rti-et-voas%E2%80%99unissent-pour-plus-d%E2%80%99efficacit%C3%A9>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/programme-audiovisuel-pour-sensibiliser-sur-le-vih-sida-15772.html>
- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6369-lancement-de-l-emission-spotlight-sida-sur-rti1-et-radio-cote-d-ivoire..html>
- <http://fr.africatime.com/cote-d-ivoire/db/lancement-de-lemission-spotlight-sida-sur-rti1-et-radio-cote-divoire>

Several newspapers report on the launching of "Spotlight SIDA" Friday by U.S. Ambassador Terence McCulley. **L'Inter (p. 13)** quotes the Ambassador as saying that Spotlight SIDA is a weekly radio program and a bi-monthly television program on the national news stations. The program will focus on a variety of complex issues related to HIV/AIDS, including how the U.S. government, through its PEPFAR program, is working to fight the disease. The Ambassador is quoted in **Le Nouveau Reveil (p. 11)** as saying, "We hope that Spotlight SIDA will provide pertinent information and reinforce exchanges on the issue of HIV on a daily basis throughout the country."

A report in **Nord-Sud Quotidien (p. 8)** says that the program will be an opportunity for people living with HIV to talk about their experience. It also quotes the Ambassador as saying that, in 2013, PEPFAR helped more than 13,000 mothers living with the disease throughout the country by providing them with treatment.

### **6. Ivoirian government takes measures to prevent spread of Ebola**

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493444.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/une-epidemie-d-ebola-en-quinee-conakry-le-gouvernement-ivoirien-prend-des-dispositions-particulieres-15791.html>
- <http://www.linfodrome.com/sante-bien-etre/15153-sante-l-ebola-menace-la-cote-d-ivoire>

The government of Cote d'Ivoire is taking steps to prevent the spread of Ebola reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 15)**. An outbreak has been reported in neighboring Guinea. The measures taken thus far include the reinforcement of tools to monitor the situation, a public campaign to inform the population and the involvement of local government officials to prevent the disease. According to the paper, 59 people have been reported as killed by the disease so far in Guinea. The government has also announced a plan to open an office in Man, in western Cote d'Ivoire, tasked with coordinating measures to prevent people suspected of having the disease from entering the country.

#### 7. AfDB head says bank's board of governors to return to Abidjan by July

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493487.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/retour-de-la-bad-en-cote-d-ivoire-donald-kaberuka-je-m-installe-a-abidjan-en-juillet-2014-15811.html>

The president of the African Development Bank (AfDB) Donald Kaberuka announced that all the members of the bank's board of governors will return to Abidjan by July of this year reports **Nord-Sud Quotidien (p. 5)**. The paper reports that Kaberuka said this on Saturday during an interview with French broadcaster RFI. Kaberuka also said that the plan for the transfer of the headquarters of the bank to Abidjan is moving smoothly and that the bank plans to hold its meeting of governors in September 2014, in Abidjan.

[International Stories on Cote d'Ivoire  
Does Conflict Produce Winners and Losers? Or Just Survivors?](#)

The Atlantic

Refugees mourn the death of a relative at a camp in western *Ivory Coast* during the country's post-election violence in 2011. (Reuters/Luc ...

[Ivory Coast: Charles Blé Goudé to be tried for crimes against humanity](#)

euronews

Ivory Coast national Charles Blé Goudé has been transferred to the International Criminal Court to face charges of crimes against humanity linked to a ...

[Ivory Coast surrenders youth leader to ICC](#)

Boston.com

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — The International Criminal Court says Ivory Coast authorities have surrendered to the court a former youth leader ...

[7 New Judges For ECOWAS Court Of Justice](#)

Leadership Newspapers

... would be presented to the Council of Ministers at their 13th extraordinary meeting on March 26, in Yamoussoukro, Cote d'Ivoire for ratification.

[Secret of multiple insecticide resistance in mosquitoes unlocked](#)

Business Standard

... the unprecedented multiple and extreme-level resistance is generated in mosquitoes found in the rice fields of Tiassale in southern Cote d'Ivoire.

[Ehud Barack And Israel's Ivory Coast Connection](#)

Worldcrunch

That friend is Alassane Ouattara, who served as Ivory Coast's prime minister in the early 1990s before moving on to the IMF. Fischer, who went on to ...

[Court refuses to dismiss Hershey child labor case](#)

ConfectioneryNews.com

Laws in the Ivory Coast and Ghana, which account for 70% of the global cocoa supply, forbid forcing children to engage in dangerous activities such ...

[Media affiliation and circulation](#)

***(Newspaper circulation figures represent average number of copies sold daily. Latest numbers as of December 31, 2013.)***

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[L'Expression](#)

Daily supportive of current president Alassane Ouattara

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[L'Intelligent d'Abidjan](#)

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Le Jour Plus - (no current website)

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[Agence Ivoirienne de Presse](#)

Government-run news agency

[ONU CI FM](#)

UN-owned radio operated by the UN Operation in Cote d'Ivoire

[RTI Television](#)

Government-run television and radio conglomerate



## American Embassy's National Daily Press Review

MARCH 21, 2014

### Today's Top Stories

1. Ivoirian government agrees to send Charles Ble Goude to the ICC
2. FPI president Pascal Affi calls on supporters to boycott census
3. World Bank to assess support projects in Cote d'Ivoire
4. Government news agency celebrates 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary

#### 1. Ivoirian government agrees to send Charles Ble Goude to the ICC

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493232.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493294.html>
- <http://www.fratmat.info/une/item/13963-transf%C3%A8rement-de-bl%C3%A9-goud%C3%A9-le-gouvernement-acc%C3%A8de-%C3%A0-la-demande-de-la-cpi>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/la-cote-d-ivoire-accepte-le-transfere-a-la-cpi-de-charles-ble-goude-presidence-15607.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/le-gouvernement-ivoirien-d-accord-pour-le-transfere-a-la-cpi-15604.html>
- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6347-ble-goude-sera-transfere-a-la-cpi-selon-les-autorites-ivoiriennes.html>

It was released yesterday that several months after the issuance of an arrest warrant by the International Criminal Court (ICC), the Ivoirian government has agreed to allow former opposition youth leader Charles Ble Goude to be transferred to The Hague. The story is top in almost all of the day's papers with a variety of commentary.

"The decision was motivated by the suffering and chaos he has caused in this country," **L'Inter (pp. 4-5)** quotes Minister of Justice Gnenema Coulibaly as saying after the cabinet meeting where the decision was made. "Ble Goude is the one that brought violence to the campuses of the country's colleges and asked his supporters to attack UN personnel during the crisis," the minister added. "He is also the one that encouraged supporters to kill people suspected of being linked to his rivals. This is why government arrested him and now the ICC will take over."

**L'Intelligent d'Abidjan (p. 5)** offers that, by being arrogant and defiant to the government, opposition FPI party leaders, including Pascal Affi N'Guessan and Justin Koua, have given the government no other option. The paper adds that at one point Ble Goude was seen as the successor to former president Laurent Gbagbo. **Soir Info (pp. 3-4)** quotes Ble Goude's brother Leopold Gnepo as saying he is "shocked" by the government's decision. He adds that he has been trying to meet with government leaders to avoid this outcome.

On the opposition side, **Le Quotidien d'Abidjan (pp. 3-4)** says that Ble Goude's former group, COJEP, called for a meeting of its members, but it was broken up by police. **Notre Voie (p. 4-5)** says that the decision to send Ble Goude to the ICC is "baseless." It also quotes opposition FPI president Affi N'Guessan as saying, "This decision does not advance national cohesion." The paper also says that the transfer could happen as soon as today. Claver Ndri, the attorney for Ble Goude, reports **Aujourd'hui (p. 6)**, says that the government's decision is "incomprehensible." He also expressed confusion as to why the government says that former first lady Simone Gbagbo will not be transferred to the ICC while Ble Goude will. **Le Nouveau Reveil (pp. 2-3)** alleges that a military insurrection was being planned to help release Ble Goude from prison, which is why the government agreed to expedite Ble Goude's transfer.

#### 2. FPI president Pascal Affi calls on supporters to boycott census

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493290.htm>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493268.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/la-commission-de-reconciliation-a-failli-a-sa-mission-selon-affi-n-guessan-15626.html>

- <http://fr.africatime.com/cote-d-ivoire/articles/cote-divoire-le-chef-de-lopposition-appelle-au-boycott-massif-du-recensement>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493292.html>

FPI president Affi N'Guessan called on supporters yesterday to boycott the national census reports **Notre Voie (pp. 2-3)**. He also asked FPI members not to participate in the hearings for victims of the post-electoral crisis planned by the national Commission on Dialogue, Truth and Reconciliation (CDVR). The paper quotes Affi N'Guessan as saying that "now is not the time" to carry out these projects as the country is still divided between the "victors" and the opposition which is being neglected and prosecuted by the government. In addition, some of their numbers are still in exile in other countries.

Affi N'Guessan is quoted in **Le Quotidien d'Abidjan (p. 5)**, as saying "It is clear that conditions have not been met to carry out these operations." In regards to the census, he is reported as saying, "We do not want to give support to a census that will not be inclusive." He also said that the government has "failed to achieve reconciliation," arguing that the CDVR has a "vague" mission that will not guarantee results.

In **L'Intelligent d'Abidjan (p. 8)**, Affi N'Guessan notes that the census should come after a full mapping of Cote d'Ivoire, an operation that has not yet been completed.

In response, **Le Patriote (p. 5)** reports that Minister of Planning and Development Albert Mabri Toikeusse said that the FPI is preventing development in the country. The minister underscored that the census is not a political operation, but rather a tool the government will use to better plan development projects throughout the country. He added that the last census was held in 1998 and the country needs updated data.

### 3. World Bank to assess support projects in Cote d'Ivoire

- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/cooperation-cote-d-ivoire-banque-mondiale-15-projets-actifs-passent-au-scanner-15632.html>
- <http://www.fratmat.info/une/item/13974-coop%C3%A9ration-c%C3%B4te-d%E2%80%99ivoire-banque-mondiale-15-projets-actifs-passent-au-scanner>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493239.html>

15 projects sponsored by the World Bank are being evaluated this week to ensure they are working as expected reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 18)**. The review is targeting reconstruction, agriculture and energy projects. The total cost of the projects is more than CFA 375 billion (\$780 million). According to the director of the World Bank in Cote d'Ivoire, Ousman Diagana, the country has benefited significantly from the projects aimed at rebuilding the economy and improving the business environment. Prime Minister Daniel Kablan Duncan is quoted as saying that he is expecting more financing after the assessment.

In **Le Patriote (p. 11)**, the paper reports that Diagana called on the Ivorian government to increase its fight against corruption and to eliminate delays in the implementation of projects financed by the bank.

### 4. Government news agency celebrates 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary

- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6348-50-ans-de-l-aip-l-agence-ivoirienne-de-presse-aip-veut-s-imposer-a-l-interna.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493250.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493208.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/491355.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/quot-l-aip-au-service-d-une-cote-d-ivoire-emergente-quot-directrice-15606.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/ouverture-des-festivites-du-cinquantenaire-de-l-aip-en-presence-du-pan-quillaume-soro-15595.html>

At an event yesterday in Abidjan to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Ivorian Press Agency (AIP), President of the National Assembly Guillaume Soro said that the organization is the only news entity covering the entire country reports **Le Nouveau Reveil (p. 10)**. He added that while other



government-run agencies have been used for propaganda in the past, AIP has maintained its professionalism and impartiality and stayed in the northern part of the country after the split in 2002. Minister of Communications Affoussiata Bamba Lamine committed the government to supporting their operations in an effort to improve their ability to disseminate information in a timely manner.

In ***Le Patriote (p. 10)***, the director of AIP, Oumou Barry Sana, is quoted as saying that the agency is now using state of the art equipment and is very active on social media and other new media.

[International Stories on Cote d'Ivoire](#)

[Ivory Coast to send Ble Goude to face charges at the ICC](#)

Chicago Tribune

ABIDJAN (Reuters) - Ivory Coast will send Charles Ble Goude, a former youth leader and close ally of ex-President Laurent Gbagbo, to the ...

[Côte d'Ivoire: Former militia leader's transfer to the ICC a first step to justice](#)

Amnesty International

Charles Blé Goudé will now be handed over to face justice at the ICC, bringing hope to some of the victims of the violence that plagued Cote d'Ivoire in ...

[Abidjan to build country's 1st modern metro system](#)

Turkish Press

ABIDJAN – Ivory Coast is planning to build a modern urban rail system across commercial capital Abidjan in hopes of serving the teeming city's nearly ...

Media affiliation and circulation

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Government-run television and radio conglomerate

**American Embassy's National Daily Press Review**

**MARCH 20, 2014**

Today's Top Stories

1. Planning and development minister meets foreign diplomats over census
2. Supporters of former youth leader Charles Ble Goude meet with U.S. Embassy official
3. Rights group calls for more campaign against sexual violence
4. President Ouattara holds talks with Liberian envoy ahead of ECOWAS Summit
5. Two electricity dams to be built in western in Cote d'Ivoire

### 1. Planning and development minister meets foreign diplomats over census

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493161.html>

In a meeting yesterday with diplomats from other countries, Minister of Planning and Development Albert Mabri Toikeusse asked that they disassociate the recently started census with voter registration reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 4)**. The report says that the meeting came in response to a campaign against the census by the opposition FPI party which claims that President Alassane Ouattara is trying to use the census to register supporters ahead of the 2015 president election. The minister clarified to the diplomats that this census has been planned for a long time, but was postponed in 2006 and in 2008.

Former president Henri Konan Bedie is quoted in **Le Nouveau Reveil (pp. 4&7)** as saying that the census "has nothing to do with politics." The paper also reports that the president of the national assembly, Guillaume Soro, has called on all people living in the country to take part in the census. In **Nord-Sud Quotidien (p. 2)** the former assembly president Mamadou Coulibaly is also quoted as saying that the census is not politically motivated. "This census is not voter registration, but rather an effort to better understand the population living in Cote d'Ivoire," the paper quotes Coulibaly as saying.

On the opposition side, a report in **Notre Voie (p. 2)** claims that Toikeusse and the director of the national institute of statistics, Ibrahima Ba, are struggling over control of the funding for the operation. **Le Temps (pp. 6-7)** claims that the government is organizing the census without involving the national institute of statistics. The paper also says that President Ouattara is organizing the national census for "political reasons" and that the result "could lead the country into chaos."

### 2. Supporters of former youth leader Charles Ble Goude meet with U.S. Embassy official

**L'Inter (p. 6)** reports in today's paper that supporters of the imprisoned former leader of the FPI youth wing, Charles Ble Goude, met on Tuesday (the meeting was held March 10) with a political officer from the U.S. Embassy. The delegation was led by Bly Roselin a leading member of the Pan-African Congress for Justice and People's Equality (COJEP), an organization created by Ble Goude. The paper reports that the discussion focused on "the isolation, extrajudicial detention and inhumane treatment afflicted on Ble Goude for the last 14 months." The report also says that the delegation expressed anger over what they see as "humiliating" treatment of their former leader. They also told the U.S. diplomat that an eventual transfer of Ble Goude to face charges at the International Criminal Court (ICC) could undermine the national reconciliation process in Cote d'Ivoire and asked that the U.S. assist in the effort to free political prisoners.

### 3. Rights group calls for more campaign against sexual violence

At a conference yesterday in Abidjan marking International Womens Day, **L'Expression (p. 5)**, reports that the Ivoirian Coalition for the ICC called on the government to escalate a campaign against sexual violence. According to the paper, the head of the organization, Ali Ouattara, said that sexual perpetrators are benefiting from impunity because no actions are being taken against them. Ouattara is quoted as saying, "In many cases, women in Cote d'Ivoire do not benefit from any level of protection against violence."

Reporting on the same story, **Le Temps (p. 9)** says that nearly 6,000 cases of violence against women was reported between 2010 and 2013.

#### 4. President Ouattara holds talks with Liberian envoy ahead of ECOWAS Summit

- <http://news.abidjan.net/p/180776.html>
- <http://www.fratmat.info/une/item/13942-audience-un-%C3%A9missaire-de-la-pr%C3%A9sidente-du-lib%C3%A9ria-chez-le-pr%C3%A9sident-ouattara>
- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6336-ellen-johnson-sirleaf-presente-ses-voeux-de-prompt-retablissement-a-alassane.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/ellen-johnson-sirleaf-presente-ses-voeux-de-prompt-retablissement-a-alassane-ouattara-15518.html>
- <http://www.linodrome.com/vie-politique/15108-la-presidente-du-liberia-depeche-un-emissaire-chez-ouattara>
- [http://www.imatin.net/article/politique/la-presidente-de-liberia-son-excellence-ellen-johnson-sirleaf-reagit-face-a-la-convalescence-du-president-ouattara\\_17903\\_1395244759.html](http://www.imatin.net/article/politique/la-presidente-de-liberia-son-excellence-ellen-johnson-sirleaf-reagit-face-a-la-convalescence-du-president-ouattara_17903_1395244759.html)

In advance of a meeting next week of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), President Ouattara met yesterday with an envoy from the Liberian government reports **Fraternité Matin (p. 7)**. **L'Intelligent d'Abidjan (p. 10)** speculates that the two focused on the upcoming election of the next chairman of ECOWAS. Ouattara is the outgoing president of the organization and Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf is the front-runner to replace him.

#### 5. Two electricity dams to be built in western in Cote d'Ivoire

- <http://www.fratmat.info/une/item/13944-fleuve-cavally-la-c%C3%B4te-d%E2%80%99ivoire-signe-avec-finagection-pour-la-construction-de-deux-barrages-hydro%C3%A9lectriques>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/fleuve-cavally-la-cote-d-ivoire-signe-avec-finagection-pour-la-construction-de-deux-barrages-hydroelectriques-15548.html>

The Minister of Energy Adama Toungara has signed an agreement with the company Finagection for the construction of two dams in western Cote d'Ivoire reports **Fraternité Matin (p. 14)**. The two dams will have the capacity of 220 and 20 megawatts, respectively. After the event, the paper quotes Toungara as saying, "The construction of the two dams is part of government efforts to diversify electricity production in the country. With the construction of these two dams, hydro-electricity will increase from 25 to 40 percent of our national production.

International Stories on Cote d'Ivoire

Security Concerns At Liberia-Ivory Coast Border

AllAfrica.com

The Nyaaken Border in River Gee County with the Ivory Coast is said to be vulnerable, with just three Immigration-BIN personnel and no Liberia ...

Hershey Judge Says Shareholders Can Seek Child-Labor Files (1)

Businessweek

West Africa, including top growers Ghana and Ivory Coast, accounts for about 70 percent of the world's cocoa-bean production. Pressure to ...

African air pollution is spiralling

environmentalresearchweb

Air pollution from African cities is set to increase dramatically over the next two decades, according to scientists in France and the Ivory Coast.

Côte d'Ivoire reboots its water sector

Global Water Intelligence (subscription)

The West African state of Côte d'Ivoire is planning to tender its first privately financed water treatment plant just two years after emerging from a decade ...

[West Africa's Refugee and Security Crisis](#)

Inter Press Service

Côte d'Ivoire too has faced insecurity. While the country recovers from its post-electoral crisis that resulted in over 3,000 deaths between 2010 to 2011, ...

[The Most Astonishing Space-Age Buildings in Africa](#)

io9

St. Paul's Cathedral in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast), designed by Aldo Spirito, consecrated in 1980. The Most Astonishing Space-Age Buildings ...

Media affiliation and circulation

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[Fraternite Matin](#)

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## American Embassy's National Daily Press Review

MARCH 19, 2014

### Today's Top Stories

1. Opposition party wants reconciliation commission to hold national forum
2. EU envoy opposes general amnesty in Cote d'Ivoire
3. Media to join campaign against proliferation of light weapons
4. Media regulatory body launches new website to promote transparency of newspapers
5. Islamic Bank to commit \$29 million to community projects in western Cote d'Ivoire

#### 1. Opposition party wants reconciliation commission to hold national forum\_

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493071.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/reconciliation-nationale-le-fpi-invite-la-cdvr-a-organiser-les-etats-generaux-de-la-republique-15436.html>
- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6320-reconciliation-nationale-le-fpi-invite-la-cdvr-a-organiser-les-etats-generaux-d.html>
- <http://www.linfodrome.com/vie-politique/15088-le-fpi-s-eleve-contre-l-audition-des-victimes-par-la-cdvr>

The opposition FPI party yesterday issued a statement demanding that the Commission on Dialogue, Truth and Reconciliation (CDVR) organize a national forum to discuss the situation in the country. Many newspapers cover this story today including **Fraternite Matin (p. 7)** which quotes the FPI statement as saying, "We invite the CDVR to organize this forum that will be beneficial to all." The paper also quotes the statement as saying, "This forum will help resolve problems linked to the recent political crisis in the country."

**Le Jour Plus (p. 2)** indicates that the FPI is trying to "trap" the head of the CDVR, Charles Konan Banny. The paper also claims that after failing to convince the public about its idea of a national forum, the FPI is trying to force the CDVR to take up their cause. A report in **Le Nouveau Reveil (p. 3)** also quotes the FPI statement as saying, "The FPI party is against the methods and approaches being used by the CDVR to attempt to reconcile Ivoirians." It goes on to say that Banny's method of reconciliation is "based on victor's justice, exclusion and discrimination of the victims."

**L'Inter (p. 2)** discusses the organization of the forum, citing the statement as saying that the forum would bring together six commissions made up of political parties, civil society, local commissions, religious leaders and workers unions among others to discuss constitutional and institutional reforms ahead of the 2015 presidential elections.

#### 2. EU envoy opposes general amnesty in Cote d'Ivoire

- <http://www.fratmat.info/une/item/13911-r%C3%A9conciliation-l%E2%80%99amnistie-g%C3%A9n%C3%A9rale-n%E2%80%99est-pas-b%C3%A9n%C3%A9fique-indique-l%E2%80%99ue>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/reconciliation-quot-l-amnistie-generale-n-est-pas-benefique-quot-indique-l-ue-15461.html>
- <http://letitrologue.com/titre/59489/rconciliation-l-amnistie-gnrale-n-est-pas-bnfique-indique-l-ue>

Bruno Pozzi, envoy for the European Union in Cote d'Ivoire, is quoted in an interview with **Fraternite Matin (p. 8)** as saying that general amnesty is not the path to pursue in Cote d'Ivoire. Pozzi said that the country needs impartial justice where all perpetrators are brought to

justice for crimes they committed. He also stated that reconciliation and justice are two issues that cannot be separated.

**Le Patriote (p. 7)** reports that Pozzi also talked about the disarmament program of former combatants and noted that the EU has already committed more than CFA 90 billion (\$191 million) to the effort. He added that EU support will help disarm 7,500 former combatants throughout the country, representing 10 percent of the total number.

### **3. Media to join campaign against proliferation of light weapons**

Ivoirian journalists have been encouraged to join in a campaign against the proliferation of light weapons in Cote d'Ivoire reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 6)**. During a seminar organized recently by a German NGO, experts talked about how to develop a communication strategy to inform the population on the dangers of these types of weapons. The experts noted that more than 800 million small arms are circulated worldwide, 70 percent of which are in the hands of criminals.

### **4. Media regulatory body launches new website to promote transparency of newspapers**

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493069.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/l-olped-s-offre-un-site-web-pour-vulgariser-les-regles-du-metier-de-journaliste-15440.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/492920.html>
- <http://rti.ci/actualite-6250-societe-l-olped-presente-son-site-internet.html>
- <http://abidjan911.com/cote-divoire-lolped-presente-site-internet-mardi/>

OLPED, the association of newspaper editors and publishers, yesterday announced the launch of a new website designed to promote transparency in the press by making their newspapers more accessible to the public reports **Notre Voie (p. 7)**. According to OLPED president Moussa Zio, the website will help the organization to share activities and projects of their newspapers and to increase transparency in the newspaper sector. The website is found at [www.olped.com](http://www.olped.com).

### **5. Islamic Bank to commit \$29 million to community projects in western Cote d'Ivoire**

A report in **Fraternite Matin (p. 16)** says that the Islamic Development Bank (BID) will fund development projects in western Cote d'Ivoire totaling CFA 14 billion (\$29 million). The projects planned include roads to rural communities, clean water infrastructure and classrooms and cafeterias in schools. According to the paper, this was announced yesterday in Abidjan by the coordinator of the program, Fulegence Messan. This program is part of a government effort to reinforce communities in the country.

International Stories on Cote d'Ivoire

[Ivory Coast carries out first census in 16 years](#)

Yahoo Singapore News

Ivory Coast on Monday began its first census in 16 years, an essential process for a country incapable of estimating its growing population, but where ...

[Moroccan company, Wafa Assurance announces new subsidiary in Cameroon](#)

Business in Cameroon

In Cote d'Ivoire, where Wafa Assurance had abandoned its intention to acquire SAFA due to a fire that had caused significant material damages to the ...

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## American Embassy's National Daily Press Review

MARCH 18, 2014

### Today's Top Stories

1. President Ouattara urges Ivoirians to participate in population census
2. Government announces program to curb malnutrition
3. Consumer associations denounce high cost of living in Cote d'Ivoire
4. Photo exhibition on peace and reconciliation opens in Abidjan
5. African parliamentarians meeting in Abidjan over population and development

#### 1. President Ouattara urges Ivoirians to participate in population census

- <http://www.fratmat.info/une/item/13866-rqph-le-pr%C3%A9sident-ouattara-donne-lexemple>
- <http://fr.africetime.com/cote-d-ivoire/articles/apres-setre-fait-recense-ouattara-encourage-les-populations-se-faire-recenser>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/cote-d-ivoire-debut-du-recensement-ouattara-parmi-les-seuls-recenses-15362.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/492950.html>
- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6292-ouattara-encourage-les-populations-a-se-faire-recenser.html>

After being counted as the first Ivoirian in the national census, the first census in more than 15 years, **Fraternite Matin (p. 6)** reports that President Alassane Ouattara encouraged all people living in Cote d'Ivoire to take part. "An emerging country should have accurate statistics and these figures will enable the country to design projects to foster economic growth and reduce poverty," the paper quotes Ouattara as saying. **Le Patriote (pp. 2&3)** reports that this census is different from the review of the national voter's registration. The paper also accuses the opposition FPI party, which yesterday called for postponing the census, as "politicizing" the issue. The paper explains that the census is only designed to establish the composition and characteristics of the population living in Cote d'Ivoire.

According to a report in **L'Intelligent d'Abidjan (p. 7)**, the census has already been delayed in parts of the country, including in the central Ivoirian city of Bouake. The paper says that the delay is due to the lack of training for the census workers.

On the opposition side, **Notre Voie (pp. 2&3)**, reports that the census will not result in any concrete figures because Ivoirian refugees in other countries will be excluded. The paper also calls on the international community, including donors and partners who are supporting the census, to reconsider their position because "the census is designed to serve the interests of the ruling RDR party."

**Soir Info (p. 6)** quotes a leading member of the opposition FPI party, Alphonse Douati, as saying, "We express concern about this operation because it is likely to legitimize the illegal occupation and expropriation of properties." He also said that the results of the census will be used in the coming presidential election and could lead to electoral fraud.

#### 2. Government announces program to curb malnutrition

- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/coulibaly-sangafowa-agir-est-une-initiative-visant-a-eradiquer-la-faim-et-la-malnutrition-au-sahel-et-en-afrique-de-l-ouest-15370.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/493013.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/492948.html>
- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6302-le-gouvernement-ivoirien-vise-l-objectif-faim-zero-d-ici-2020..html>

At an event yesterday in Grand Bassam, the Minister of Agriculture, Mamadou Sangafowa Coulibaly, called for greater collaboration among West African countries to combat malnutrition

reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 21)**. The minister was speaking at a ceremony designed to find ways to fight malnutrition in Africa, focusing on the effects of climate change on crop production as part of the reason for food shortages. According to the paper, the ceremony was also designed to implement a program called Global Alliance, aimed at fighting malnutrition in the region.

**L'Expression (p. 7)** reports that the Ivorian government established in 2010 a national agriculture program to focus on food production. The paper explains that the goal of this initiative is to increase production by 9 percent by 2015, reduce poverty and create more than two million jobs in the agriculture sector.

### 3. Consumer associations denounce high cost of living in Cote d'Ivoire

- [http://www.informateur.info/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=3121:cote-divoire--les-consommateurs-ivoiriens-denoncent-la-cherte-de-la-vie&catid=60:flas-infos](http://www.informateur.info/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=3121:cote-divoire--les-consommateurs-ivoiriens-denoncent-la-cherte-de-la-vie&catid=60:flas-infos)
- <http://www.fratmat.info/societe/item/13879-journ%C3%A9e-mondiale-du-consommateur-les-consommateurs-ivoiriens-d%C3%A9noncent-la-chert%C3%A9-de-la-vie>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/492744.html>

In celebration of the World Consumer Day on March 15, several consumer associations came together to denounce the high costs of living in Cote d'Ivoire reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 9)**. The paper says that the high costs of utilities such as electricity and water in many parts of the country are to blame for the problem. The groups called on the government to put into place measures that respect the rights of consumers and reduce the high costs of living. The Minister of Commerce, Jean-Louis Billon, was also in attendance at the event and committed the government to finding solutions to the problem.

### 4. Photo exhibition on peace and reconciliation opens in Abidjan

- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/exposition-a-abidjan-des-images-de-la-crise-ivoirienne-pour-appeler-a-la-reconciliation-nationale-15351.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/492916.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/492924.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/p/180545.html>
- <http://abidjan911.com/exposition-abidjan-images-crise-ivoirienne-appeler-reconciliation-nationale/>

Peace and national reconciliation is the focus of a photo exhibition that opened yesterday in Abidjan reports **Le Nouveau Reveil (p. 7)**. The exhibition, which is organized by the national photojournalists association (UNPJCJ) is the first of its kind since the 2011 post-electoral crisis in Cote d'Ivoire. The paper quotes the head of the photojournalists association, Emmanuel Tanoh as saying, "The goal of this photo exhibition is to raise awareness of the importance of peace and national cohesion."

**L'Expression (p. 10)** reports that the exhibition includes 50 photos taken during the post-electoral crisis by photojournalists. This paper also quotes Tanoh as saying, "While we know that some of these photos are shocking, our intention is to use them to raise awareness on the consequences of war."

### 5. African parliamentarians meeting in Abidjan over population and development

Members of parliament from other African countries are meeting in Abidjan to discuss a variety of issues including population and development reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 7)**. Speaking at the opening ceremony yesterday, Ivorian Minister of Planning and Development Albert Mabri Toikeusse said that the discussions will focus on development while taking into account gender and demographic issues.

International Stories on Cote d'Ivoire

Ivory Coast uses smartphones in crucial census

Turkish Press

ABIDJAN – Ivory Coast on Monday began taking its first population census in 16 years after political upheaval in 2008 foiled the last attempt.

[News Analysis: Initiatives launched to end Cote d'Ivoire conflicts over land](#)

People's Daily Online

According to Jacques Amani, a Cote d'Ivoire agricultural expert, the advancing desert conditions have been the major factor for the movement of ...

[Accor Opens Sofitel Abidjan Hôtel Ivoire](#)

ASIATravelTips.com

This prestigious Ivory Coast property was built by architect Moshe Mayer in 1963, and was revamped in 2011. Sofitel signed a management contract ...

[Nigeria's great achievement: Guinea-worm free](#)

The Global Dispatch

... African countries today indicating their new guinea-worm free status--Somalia, Cote d'Ivoire, South Africa, Niger and Nigeria. Congratulations to all.

[Media affiliation and circulation](#)

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## American Embassy's National Daily Press Review

MARCH 17, 2014

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1. Population census begins today in Cote d'Ivoire\_
2. Defense Minister in the west to assess security situation
3. Head of CDVR meets with traditional hunters
4. Mayor of Abobo vows to stamp out banditry in the area

#### 1. Population census begins today in Cote d'Ivoire\_

- <http://www.fratmat.info/une/item/13837-recensement-g%C3%A9n%C3%A9ral-de-la-population-1%E2%80%99op%C3%A9ration-d%C3%A9but-ce-lundi>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/492842.html>
- <http://fr.africatime.com/cote-d-ivoire/articles/cote-divoire-premier-recensement-de-la-population-depuis-16-ans-sous-tension>
- [http://www.imatin.net/article/societe/recensement-de-la-population-on-saura-enfin-combien-de-personnes-vivent-en-cote-d-ivoire\\_17773\\_1395042319.html](http://www.imatin.net/article/societe/recensement-de-la-population-on-saura-enfin-combien-de-personnes-vivent-en-cote-d-ivoire_17773_1395042319.html)
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/le-recensement-general-de-la-population-et-de-l-habitat-2014-demarre-lundi-avec-le-recensement-du-president-alassane-ouattara-15278.html>

The long-awaited census of Cote d'Ivoire, the first in more than 15 years, starts today reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 8)**. The Minister of Planning and Development, Dr. Albert Mabri Toikeusse, officially launched the census, the fourth in the country's history, on Saturday in Bouake. According to the paper, the operation is scheduled to run until April 16, one month, at a total cost of CFA 12 billion (\$25 million). The paper says that more than 30,000 census workers will canvas the country. The paper quotes the minister as inviting political parties to get involved in the census, as well.

At the same time, the paper reports that the opposition FPI party, in a statement, has called for the postponement of the operation on the grounds that many people have been displaced from Cote d'Ivoire following the post-electoral crisis in 2011.

According to a report in **Soir Info (p. 4)**, the government will pay for 60 percent of the cost of the census while international partners, including UNDP, will cover the rest. The paper also notes that according to the last census in 1998, 16.3 million people were living in Cote d'Ivoire. Projections now estimate that more than 20 million people live in the country.

From the opposition side, **Notre Voie (p. 5)** published the full statement of the FPI party, calling on the delay of the census. The paper also claims that the 30,000 census workers were chosen based on ethnic and political reasons. In addition, the paper says that the government is trying to "exclude" many Ivoirians in favor of new immigrants who have arrived in recent years.

#### 2. Defense Minister in the west to assess security situation

- <http://www.connectionivoirienne.net/97454/cote-divoire-barrage-anarchique-ministre-defense-releve-soldat-ses-fonctions>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/492850.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/492799.html>

The Minister in charge of Defense, Paul Koffi Koffi, is in western Cote d'Ivoire this week to see first-hand the current state of security reports **Fraternite Matin (pp. 4&5)**. According to the paper, the population of the region has promised to cooperate with government forces in order to restore peace. The paper quotes the minister as saying, "The security situation is not that

alarming, but there is a need to remain vigilant.” According to the paper, the minister visited towns such as San Pedro, Tabou, Grabo, Tai, Guiglo, Bolequin and Man, among others. A report in **Soir Info (p. 3)** quotes Koffi as saying that the government has taken important steps to improve security after recent attacks in the town of Grabo and an invasion of a village along the Ivoirian border with Guinea.

### 3. Head of CDVR meets with traditional hunters

- <http://www.fratmat.info/politique/item/13806-confr%C3%A9rie-dozo-des-membres-souhaitent-l%E2%80%99implication-de-charles-konan-banny>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/charles-konan-banny-quot-je-n-ai-jamais-accuse-les-dozos-d-atteinte-aux-droits-de-l-homme-quot-15260.html>

The head of the Dialogue, Truth and Reconciliation Commission (CDVR), Charles Konan Banny, met on Friday with leaders of traditional hunters known as “Dozos” who have served as informal security in rural areas of the country reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 7)**. According to the paper, the Dozos used the opportunity to ask Banny to help reorganize their organization. “Dozos form part of the cultural heritage of the country, but they have unfortunately seen their image damaged,” the paper quotes Banny as saying. He promised that he would help the Dozos improve their situation. Banny also encouraged Dozos to work more closely with government officials in their regions and to fully identify all their members.

### 4. Mayor of Abobo vows to stamp out banditry in the area

In a recent statement, Adama Toungara, the mayor of Abobo, a large suburb of Abidjan, vowed to fight banditry in his community reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 21)**. According to the paper, a gang of armed youth calling themselves “Microbe of the Bee” has been robbing people on the streets of Abobo. The mayor will ask for more resources to increase security on the streets to better protect the population, both on foot and in cars.

International Stories on Cote d’Ivoire

#### [Israeli links to Ivory Coast army project](#)

Al-Monitor

In the early 1990s, he served as prime minister of the Ivory Coast, and then moved on to a senior executive position in the IMF. Summary🔍 Print A deal ...

#### [Africa's big cities groan under gridlock](#)

Deutsche Welle

Over the last 20 years, the number of cars on the roads in Abidjan, Ivory Coast has almost tripled from 100,000 to just under 300,000. Neither the road ...

#### [Côte d'Ivoire: Abidjan port aims for regional supremacy](#)

The Africa Report

Côte d'Ivoire has launched massive upgrades to its ports to support the growth of the natural resource sector and to attract more of the regional transit ...

#### [Ghana president in goodwill visit to Ivory Coast](#)

Turkish Press

ABIDJAN – Ghana's President John Dramani Mahama arrived in Abidjan Thursday on a three-day visit to Ivory Coast to wish his Ivorian counterpart ...

[Ivory Coast: New Mining Code](#)

Mondaq News Alerts (registration)

A new mining code (the "New Mining Code") was voted by the Ivorian Parliament on March 5. Current mining titles will be valid for their remaining term ...

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Privately owned daily supportive of President Ouattara's Rally of the Republicans Party

2,221

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[Agence Ivoirienne de Presse](#)

Government-run news agency

[ONU CI FM](#)

UN-owned radio operated by the UN Operation in Cote d'Ivoire

[RTI Television](#)

Government-run television and radio conglomerate

## American Embassy's National Daily Press Review

MARCH 14, 2014

### Today's Top Stories

1. Ghanaian President John Dramani pays courtesy call on Ivoirian counterpart

2. Ivoirian government to increase investments in the tourism sector

3. Transportation Minister explains reforms to better organize sector

4. Defense Minister tells newly-graduated gendarmes to be vigilant

#### 1. Ghanaian President John Dramani pays courtesy call on Ivoirian counterpart

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/492642.html>
- <http://www.lintelligentdabidjan.net/?p=2539>
- <http://www.linodrome.com/vie-politique/15032-john-dramani-pdt-ghaneen-nous-apprecions-tres-bien-le-leadership-de-ouattara-au-sein-de-la-cedeao>
- <http://fr.africatime.com/cote-d-ivoire/articles/cote-divoire-le-ballet-de-chefs-detat-se-poursuit-avec-larrivee-abidjan-de-john-dramani>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/le-ballet-de-chefs-d-etat-se-poursuit-avec-larrivee-a-abidjan-de-john-dramani-mahama-15081.html>

The president of Ghana, John Dramani, visited Ivoirian president Alassane Ouattara yesterday in Abidjan reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 6)**. "I have come to see my good friend and wish him well. I am happy to see he is healthy," the paper reports Dramani as saying. The paper also notes that Dramani commended Ouattara for his leadership of the organization of West African countries, ECOWAS during the past two years. In response, the paper reports Ouattara as saying, "Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana are like the same country." **Le Patriote (p. 4)** adds that the Ghanaian president was met at the airport by Prime Minister Daniel Kablan Duncan.

#### 2. Ivoirian government to increase investments in the tourism sector

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/492628.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/492644.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/les-ivoiriens-doivent-investir-dans-leur-tourisme-un-lieu-d-opportunités-ministre-15088.html>
- <http://www.lintelligentdabidjan.net/?p=2535>

Ivoirian Minister of Tourism Roger Kacou announced yesterday that the government will increase investments in the Ivoirian tourism sector in the coming years reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 15)**. According to the paper, the government seeks to increase the number of tourists to more than 500,000 annually by 2015. In 2012, there were an estimated 290,000 tourists to the country. "Cote d'Ivoire is now a 'normal' country where security is strong and the economy is thriving," the paper reports the minister as saying adding that this should help to bring in more people. .

**L'Intelligent (p. 3)** reports that the minister will work with the private sector to increase investment in the tourism sector. This paper quotes the minister as saying, "Our wish is to be the number one tourism destination in Africa by 2030."

In order to increase tourism, **Le Patriote (p. 10)** reports that Kacou called on the government to reduce the value-added tax (VAT). He also noted that Cote d'Ivoire currently has 1580 hotels with a total capacity of 19,855 rooms. **L'Inter (p. 11)** reports that the ministry will need to focus on advertising in order to better inform other countries of what Cote d'Ivoire has to offer.

#### 3. Transportation Minister explains reforms to better organize sector

- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/la-grande-interview-transport-routier-gaoussou-toure-explique-la-reforme-et-rassure-15103.html>
- <http://www.linodrome.com/societe-culture/15016-transports-tout-sur-la-reforme-qui-divise-les-acteurs>

- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/les-ivoiriens-doivent-investir-dans-leur-tourisme-un-lieu-d-opportunites-ministre-15088.html>
- <http://www.lintelligentdabidjan.net/?p=2529>

In an interview yesterday with **Fraternite Mating (pp.2-3)**, the Ivoirian Minister of Transportation, Gaoussou Toure, discussed upcoming reforms that will help to end to misconduct, racketeering and violence in the transportation sector. The reforms include a new system of licensing which will distinguish between professional and non-professional drivers. In addition, the minister added, the reforms will help reduce overall transportation costs by better streamlining processes in the industry.

**L'Intelligent (p. 4)** notes that a new company, QUIPUX, has been selected to oversee vehicle inspections and licensing for drivers in the future. The company was selected based on successful efforts in other countries including Colombia and Brazil.

#### **4. Defense Minister tells newly-graduated gendarmes to be vigilant**

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/492669.html>

At a ceremony yesterday, 719 new gendarmes were promoted to full officers reports **L'Inter (p. 4)**. At the event, the Minister in Charge of Defense, Paul Koffi Koffi reportedly called on the new graduates to be professional and to remain vigilant regarding the country's security. Koffi mentioned the recent violence on the Liberian-Ivoirian border, saying, "We have to continue to strive to bring security and reconciliation to Cote d'Ivoire." He also used the occasion to call on military members still in exile in other countries to return to Cote d'Ivoire and added that the government is talking about the possibility of allowing women into the gendarmerie in the future.

International Stories on Cote d'Ivoire

Trade between Cameroon and Cote d'Ivoire climbed 500% in 3 years

Business in Cameroon

According to Charles Koffi Diby, Ivorian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, trade between Cameroon and Cote d'Ivoire ...

Two foreign traffickers jailed for six years

MaltaToday

Two foreigners, from the Ivory Coast and Portugal, are jailed for six years and fined €3,000 after admitting to being in possession of over 300 grams of ...

Media affiliation and circulation

**(Newspaper circulation figures represent average number of copies sold daily. Latest numbers as of December 31, 2013.)**

Fraternite Matin

Government-owned and controlled daily newspaper with the widest circulation

22,723 daily

Soir Info

Independent daily

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Le Nouveau Reveil

Daily owned by the PDCI-RDA Party of former President Henri Konan Bedie

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Privately owned daily supportive of former President Gbagbo and his FPI party

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Daily close to the FPI party of former President Laurent Gbagbo

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[Le Quotidien d'Abidjan](#)

Daily close to former President Laurent Gbagbo

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Daily close to the FPI party of former President Laurent Gbagbo

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Daily close to the PDCI-RDA Party of former President Henri Konan Bedie

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[L'Expression](#)

Daily supportive of current president Alassane Ouattara

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[L'Intelligent d'Abidjan](#)

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## American Embassy's National Daily Press Review

MARCH 12, 2014

### Today's Top Stories

1. President Ouattara to chair first cabinet meeting since returning from medical trip
2. Ivoirian national Thierry Tanoh to leave management of Ecobank
3. Officials from Cote d'Ivoire's treasury train on best practices
4. One killed and several others injured in clash between rival groups in northern Cote d'Ivoire

#### 1. President Ouattara to chair first cabinet meeting since returning from medical trip

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/491484.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/alassane-ouattara-preside-mercredi-le-premier-conseil-des-ministres-depuis-sa-convalescence-14918.html>
- [http://www.imatin.net/article/politique/gestion-des-affaires-de-l-etat-ouattara-preside-le-conseil-des-ministres-aujourd-hui\\_17604\\_1394609327.html](http://www.imatin.net/article/politique/gestion-des-affaires-de-l-etat-ouattara-preside-le-conseil-des-ministres-aujourd-hui_17604_1394609327.html)
- <http://fr.africatime.com/cote-d-ivoire/articles/cote-divoire-alassane-ouattara-preside-mercredi-le-premier-conseil-des-ministres-depuis-sa>

After returning last week from a medical trip to receive surgery, *Fraternite Matin* (p. 9), reports that President Alassane Ouattara will chair today's cabinet meeting. The announcement was made during Ouattara's meeting yesterday with the president of Benin, Yayi Boni. Following the cabinet meeting today, the paper reports, Ouattara will meet with World Bank official Bertrand Badre. All ministers, even those traveling out of the country, have been called to attend the meeting reports *Le Nouveau Reveil* (p. 2). The last full cabinet meeting, the paper reports, was 40 days ago. *Soir Info* (p. 8) quotes the president as saying that he is now fit and is ready and able to do his job as president.

On the opposition side, *Notre Voie* (p. 3), reports that although the president is holding the cabinet meeting, he is not physically fit and that the meeting is merely a publicity stunt.

#### 2. Ivoirian national Thierry Tanoh to leave management of Ecobank

- <http://fr.africatime.com/cote-d-ivoire/articles/ecobank-thierry-tanoh-quitte-le-groupe>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/491517.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/ecobank-thierry-tanoh-quitte-le-groupe-14930.html>
- [http://economie.jeuneafrique.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=21601](http://economie.jeuneafrique.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=21601)

According to *L'Inter* (p. 5), Thierry Tanoh, the managing director of Ecobank, a pan-African bank, has been asked to step down from his position. Tanoh, an Ivoirian national, was appointed to lead the bank in July 2012. At that time, his previous experience with the World Bank was seen as a benefit to the job, the paper reports, but an ongoing leadership conflict and allegations of account manipulation plagued Tanoh throughout his tenure. *L'Intelligent d'Abidjan* (p. 8) reports that Tanoh has been asked to step down because of alleged "mismanagement." Tanoh will be replaced by his deputy, Albert Essien.

#### 3. Officials from Cote d'Ivoire's treasury train on best practices

- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/ouverture-a-abidjan-d-un-seminaire-sur-la-responsabilite-personnelle-et-pecuniaire-des-comptables-publics-14897.html>
- <http://fr.africatime.com/cote-d-ivoire/articles/comptabilite-publique-responsabilite-personnelle-et-pecuniaire-la-cote-divoire-et-la-france>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/491454.html>

French experts are training accountants from the national treasury this week reports *L'Intelligent d'Abidjan* (p. 3). The training started yesterday with the goal of educating the government officials on best practices of public finance management. The training will also reportedly cover the legal aspects of dealing with public funds. In addition, the paper notes that this training is aimed at bring Cote d'Ivoire up to the same government accounting standards as other countries in the region.

**L'Inter (p. 10)** adds that the training is being done in anticipation of new financial procedures by the Economic and Monetary Union of West Africa (UEMOA) expected in 2017.

#### **4. One killed and several others injured in clash between rival groups in northern Cote d'Ivoire**

- [http://www.linodrome.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=15001:violence-affrontements-entre-populations-a-koro-un-mort-plusieurs-blesses-des-domiciles-saccages&catid=13:faits-et-mefaits&Itemid=115](http://www.linodrome.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=15001:violence-affrontements-entre-populations-a-koro-un-mort-plusieurs-blesses-des-domiciles-saccages&catid=13:faits-et-mefaits&Itemid=115)

A violent incident in Koro, in northern Cote d'Ivoire, left at least one death and numerous other injuries reports **L'Inter (p. 7)**. The clash, the paper reports, was between supporters of the new mayor of the town, Youssouf Soumahoro, and his detractors. According to the paper, a group of young people were selected by the mayor to patrol the city as law enforcement, a measure opposed by others. The paper notes that the situation in the town is still tense despite calls for peace by government officials.

**Soir Info (p. 2)** has a different account, reporting that the incident stemmed from a land dispute. In addition to the injuries and one death, the paper adds that several homes were burned in the incident.

International Stories on Cote d'Ivoire

[Ivory Coast posts deflation of -0.2 pct yr/yr in February](#)

Reuters

ABIDJAN, March 11 (Reuters) - Ivory Coast recorded consumer price deflation of -0.2 percent year-on-year in February, slipping from inflation of 0.1 ...

[Emirates adds freighter route to Tunisia, Cote d'Ivoire](#)

aircargoworld

Emirates SkyCargo is set to increase its cargo capacity to Tunis, Tunisia, and Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire, with the introduction of a weekly freighter service ...

[President Jammeh Wishes Alassane Ouattara 'Good Health'](#)

AllAfrica.com

The head of state on Cote d'Ivoire, Alassane Ouattara, who is convalescing after an operation in France on Monday received in audience, at his home ...

[Africa's 'Future Five' to watch for in 2014.](#)

Toboc - Trade News

Cote d'Ivoire is recovering from a sapping civil war- and this once jewel of West Africa is trying hard to recover its former sheen. Experts believe that if

[Ivorian cocoa arrivals at 1.114 mln tonnes](#)

AgraNet (subscription)

Cocoa arrivals at ports in top grower Ivory Coast reached around 1,114,000 tonnes by March 9, since the start of the season on October 2, up from ...

Media affiliation and circulation

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## American Embassy's National Daily Press Review

MARCH 11, 2014

### Today's Top Stories

1. 2014 census to be launched this week
2. Alleged photos of Ble Goude's continue to be discussed
3. World Bank recommits to supporting Cote d'Ivoire
4. Benin President Yayi Boni announced in Abidjan today
5. Dissident student sentenced to three months in prison

#### 1. 2014 census to be launched this week

- <http://www.fratmat.info/une/item/13669-rqph-l%E2%80%99op%C3%A9ration-d%C3%A9marre-le-17-mars-sur-toute-l%E2%80%99%C3%A9tendue-du-territoire>
- <http://fr.africatime.com/cote-d-ivoire/articles/recensement-general-de-la-population-operation-debut-le-17-mars>
- [http://www.linodrome.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=14986:cote-d-ivoire-le-recensement-de-la-population-demarre-le-17-mars-prochain&catid=8:vie-politique&Itemid=110](http://www.linodrome.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=14986:cote-d-ivoire-le-recensement-de-la-population-demarre-le-17-mars-prochain&catid=8:vie-politique&Itemid=110)
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/491414.html>

The Ivoirian Minister of Planning, Albert Mabri, announced yesterday that the 2014 census, the first in over a decade, will begin this week reports **Le Patriote (p. 3)**. According to Mabri, the census will begin in Bouake on March 15 and Yamoussoukro on the 17 before being extended nationwide. The paper also notes that the total cost of the census will be CFA 12.7 billion (\$27 million).

Over 3000 people will be mobilized to complete the census reports **L'Inter (p. 8)**, which says that the results will be known by late May. In addition, the paper notes that the census is separate from the ongoing issues with the country's voter registration list. The paper quotes Mabri as saying, "The census will help us with better planning of development projects and will help us to give a better assessment of our programs to partners." President Alassane Ouattara will be the first Ivoirian counted by the census.

#### 2. Alleged photos of Ble Goude's continue to be discussed

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/491409.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/le-parti-presidentiel-denonce-une-fabrication-des-emotions-a-propos-des-supposees-photos-de-ble-goude-14863.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/photos-de-ble-goude-dans-les-medias-le-rdr-appelle-a-arreter-de-quot-fabriquer-des-emotions-quot-14864.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/un-grotesque-montage-14867.html>
- [http://www.linodrome.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=14987:des-leaders-politiques-reagissent-sur-les-photos-dites-de-ble-goude-et-dibopieu&catid=8:vie-politique&Itemid=110](http://www.linodrome.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=14987:des-leaders-politiques-reagissent-sur-les-photos-dites-de-ble-goude-et-dibopieu&catid=8:vie-politique&Itemid=110)
- <http://fr.africatime.com/cote-d-ivoire/articles/de-probables-photos-du-detenu-charles-ble-goude-provoquent-un-scandale-en-cote-divoire>

Speculation in the media continues over photos released over the weekend allegedly of former youth leader for the FPI party Charles Ble Goude. According to opposition paper **Notre Voie (p. 2)**, the "true nature" of the current administration has been revealed by the photos. The paper says that the photos show that Ble Goude has been mistreated and tortured, and is being detained in inhumane conditions. The paper also adds **(p. 4)** that leaders from Ble Goude's former group, COJEP, met on Monday with an official from the United States Embassy to discuss Ble Goude's conditions in detention. Officials complained that Ble Goude has been held for 14 months with no trial in sight.

**Le Temps (p.6-7)** features a similar account and says that the release of the pictures has put the government in an “uncomfortable situation” and it has led to a “panic” in the administration. Civil society groups have also spoken out about the photos, reports the paper.

On the side of the government, **Nord Sud Quotidien (p. 2)** reports that the pictures are fake. The paper cites Bazoumana Coulibaly, an official from the DST, the country’s intelligence services, as saying that the entire controversy is a scam. They claim that the photos have been staged to manipulate public opinion. The paper also reports that this has been reaffirmed by the Ministry of Interior and Security.

### 3. World Bank recommits to supporting Cote d’Ivoire

- <http://www.fratmat.info/une/item/13671-bertrand-badr%C3%A9-banque-mondiale-la-c%C3%B4te-d%E2%80%99ivoire-est-un-grand-client>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/491424.html>
- [http://www.linodrome.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=14993:projet-dans-les-secteurs-de-l-agriculture-de-l-education-de-la-sante-la-banque-mondiale-prete-a-apporter-son-appui&catid=9:economie&Itemid=111](http://www.linodrome.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=14993:projet-dans-les-secteurs-de-l-agriculture-de-l-education-de-la-sante-la-banque-mondiale-prete-a-apporter-son-appui&catid=9:economie&Itemid=111)
- <http://fr.africafrique.com/cote-d-ivoire/articles/cooperation-avec-les-institutions-de-bretton-woods-la-banque-mondiale-disposee-accompagner>

A fact-finding mission of officials from the World Bank is in Abidjan this week reports **Nord Sud Quotidien (p. 11)**. The delegation, led by Bertrand Badre, met yesterday with Ivorian Prime Minister Daniel Kablan Duncan, Minister of Economic Infrastructure Patrick Achi and Minister of Finance Niala Kaba. The World Bank delegation commended the government for its ambitious projects and recommitted the World Bank to supporting Cote d’Ivoire in a variety of sectors including agriculture, energy, education and financial reform.

In **Le Nouveau Reveil (p. 8)**, Badre is quoted as saying, “Cote d’Ivoire is a client, but also an important partner. The country has given a lot and needs a lot in return.” After the meeting, the paper reports, the delegation conducted site visits, including to the new bridge over the lagoon which the World Bank is helping to finance.

### 4. Benin President Yayi Boni announced in Abidjan today

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/491418.html>

The president of Benin, Yayi Boni, is expected today in Abidjan reports **Le Patriote (p. 5)**. Boni will meet with President Ouattara where the two are expected to discuss cooperation between their two countries and regional issues. The paper notes that the two are meeting in advance of a summit of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) later this month where Ouattara will hand off the chairmanship.

**L’Intelligent (p. 3)** notes that the president of Togo, Faure Gnassingbe, may also visit in the near future.

### 5. Dissident student sentenced to three months in prison

- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/violences-a-l-universite-3-mois-de-sursis-pour-l-etudiant-troubleur-14865.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/491425.html>

Opposition paper **Le Temps (p.3)** says that Kouakou Konan, a student at the University of Nangui Abrogoua in Abobo/Adjame, neighborhoods in Abidjan, was sentenced yesterday by a court in Abidjan. Konan was arrested on February 28 following incidents at the school. The paper said the sentence was a three month suspended sentence for disorderly conduct. The paper notes that the incidents stemmed from protests about poor living conditions on the campus. The paper also adds that the incidents led to classes being cancelled and that the controversy continues.

International Stories on Cote d’Ivoire

[Cameroon and Côte d’Ivoire sign 10 bilateral agreements in energy and agriculture](#)

Business in Cameroon

(Business in Cameroon) - Following the meeting of joint commission between of Cote d'Ivoire and Cameroon which just came to a close on March 7, ...

[France Telecom plans exit from African markets](#)

Bizcommunity.com

The multinational singled out its operations in Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Guinea and Senegal as those registering positive growth in its financials for the year ...

Media affiliation and circulation

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Government-run television and radio conglomerate

## American Embassy's National Daily Press Review

MARCH 10, 2014

### Today's Top Stories

1. Ivoirian First Lady commends government efforts to promote Ivoirian women
2. Pictures of former youth leader Charles Ble Goude spark controversy about his conditions of detention
3. European Union also calls for a reshuffle of the electoral body
4. Former speaker and opposition figure Mamadou Koulibaly says it is untimely to amend the Ivoirian constitution

#### 1. Ivoirian First Lady commends government efforts to promote Ivoirian women

- [http://www.linfodrome.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=14973:dominique-ouattara-j-espere-que-cette-annee-connaistra-a-nouveau-des-avancees-notables&catid=10:societe&Itemid=112](http://www.linfodrome.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=14973:dominique-ouattara-j-espere-que-cette-annee-connaistra-a-nouveau-des-avancees-notables&catid=10:societe&Itemid=112)
- <http://www.fratmat.info/une/item/13641-jif-les-ivoiriennes-veulent-percer-le-myst%C3%A8re-de-la-gendarmerie>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/491229.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/cote-d-ivoire-les-femmes-plaident-pour-leur-recrutement-a-la-gendarmerie-nationale-14728.html>

At an event on Saturday in Grand Bassam marking International Day of the Woman, Ivoirian first lady Dominique Ouattara said that the current government has done many things to strengthen the role of women reports **Fraternite Matin p. 5**. "This president is the first leader of the country to champion women's issues. He is doing all he can to promote women in Ivoirian society," the paper quotes Ouattara as saying. Under this administration, the paper notes, women are now able to join the gendarmerie and attend military school. In addition, a woman has been promoted to a general in the Ivoirian army for the first time in the country's history.

At the same event, **Soir info (p. 11)** reports that Prime Minister Daniel Kablan Duncan said, "We cannot achieve growth in our society without women." The first lady also announced that a new fund has been established to support women-led businesses. The CFA two billion fund (\$4.2 million) will target 25,000 women across the country annually.

#### 2. Pictures of former youth leader Charles Ble Goude spark controversy about his conditions of detention

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/491326.html>
- [http://photo.imatin.net/album/politique/charles-ble-goude-et-jean-yves-dibopieu-dans-leur-cellule-a-la-dst\\_89\\_1394385493.html](http://photo.imatin.net/album/politique/charles-ble-goude-et-jean-yves-dibopieu-dans-leur-cellule-a-la-dst_89_1394385493.html)
- [http://www.linfodrome.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=14984:en-detention-depuis-13-mois-les-premieres-images-de-ble-goude-et-dibopieu-depuis-leurs-cellules&catid=8&Itemid=110](http://www.linfodrome.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=14984:en-detention-depuis-13-mois-les-premieres-images-de-ble-goude-et-dibopieu-depuis-leurs-cellules&catid=8&Itemid=110)

Pictures that surfaced over the weekend showing former youth leader Charles Ble Goude in prison are widely published and commented upon in today's papers. Opposition paper **Notre Voie (p. 6)** notes that the fact that Ble Goude appears "lean and thin" signifies that he is being held in poor conditions, contrary to government assurances that he is being treated well in prison. The paper says that despite the conditions, Ble Goude is upbeat and quotes him as writing, "Even in prison I am free." Another picture released shows another prisoner affiliated with the FPI party in a similar condition. According to the paper, the photos are from the DST, the country's intelligence offices, and call the photos proof of human rights abuses.

On the other hand, **Le Nouveau Reveil (p. 4)** says that the pictures are "fake" released to influence public opinion. **L'Intelligent (p. 3)** quotes a family member of Ble Goude who says that the pictures are likely of Ble Goude's brother, and not of the former FPI party leader. The paper notes that a similar incident happened in 1996 involving Ble Goude.

#### 3. European Union also calls for a reshuffle of the electoral body

The European Union has followed the United States in calling for a change in the independent electoral commission (CEI) reports **Aujourd'hui (p. 4)**. According to the daily, the EU says that the CEI needs to be updated to reflect the current political landscape of the country. At this time, the commission has representatives from the Forces Nouvelles and is dominated by the ruling RHDP coalition. The paper reports that the FPI party has spoken out many times against the CEI and the fact that it does not accurately represent the current political environment. According to the paper, a reshuffle of the CEI will give the FPI party "confidence" to participate in next year's presidential election.

#### **4. Former speaker and opposition figure Mamadou Koulibaly says it is untimely to amend the Ivoirian constitution**

- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/bouake-le-pr-mamadou-koulibaly-face-aux-etudiants-ouattara-veut-modifier-l-article-35-afin-de-permettre-a-bedie-d-occuper-le-fauteuil-de-vice-president-de-la-republique-14775.html>

The former president of the National Assembly and current head of the LIDER political party, Mamadou Koulibaly, does not think that the Ivoirian constitution should be amended to include a vice president reports **Soir Info (p. 4)**. "It is not the time to amend the constitution. Ouattara wants to formalize his alliance with [former president Henri Konan] Bedie by amending article 35 and allowing for a vice president. We are opposed to this effort," the paper quotes Koulibaly as saying at an event in Bouake on Friday.

At the event, Koulibaly also spoke on conditions the country needs to satisfy to be an emerging country by the year 2020. "We are not working properly to achieve this goal," the paper quotes Koulibaly as saying. He also denounced the number of questionable, no-bid contracts by the current government. For Koulibaly, the solution is to change from a presidential administration to a parliamentary-led government.

#### International Stories on Cote d'Ivoire

##### Ivory Coast's Sifca to invest \$74 mln in West Africa

Reuters

The company is controlled by the Billon family of Ivory Coast, while the two Singaporean companies have a stake of around 25 percent. "The group ...

##### Former Armajaro employees file case against Ecom in Ivory Coast

Reuters

Ivory Coast's CCC cocoa regulator suspended Ecom's export licence last month after six cooperatives alleged that ATL had not paid them bonuses ...

##### Ivory Coast tackles music piracy

BBC News

Ivory Coast is home to some of the best-known musicians in Africa, such as Alpha Blondy, Tiken Jah Fakoly and Magic System. Music piracy though is ...

##### Côte d'Ivoire: UN expert urges Government to allow rights defenders to play their role for ...

Newstime Africa

"An independent and active civil society is central for the reconstruction of a pluralist democracy and for the national reconciliation in Côte d'Ivoire", Mr.

[CNR pursues more oil offshore Côte d'Ivoire](#)

Offshore Oil and Gas Magazine

CALGARY, Canada – CNR International says production from the Baobab field offshore Côte d'Ivoire had to be shut down in December following ...

[Ivory Coast's ex-rebels bow out of electoral commission](#)

Turkish Press

ABIDJAN – Ivory Coast's former rebel group, which controlled the country's northern region for nearly a decade, has decided to withdraw from the ...

[Adds Africa](#)

Air Cargo News.com

... capacity and frequency of a scheduled freighter service will create new opportunities for businesses in Tunisia and Cote D'Ivoire," said Nabil Sultan, ...

Media affiliation and circulation

***(Newspaper circulation figures represent average number of copies sold daily. Latest numbers as of December 31, 2013.)***

[Fraternite Matin](#)

Government-owned and controlled daily newspaper with the widest circulation

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Government-run news agency

[ONUCI FM](#)

UN-owned radio operated by the UN Operation in Cote d'Ivoire

[RTI Television](#)

Government-run television and radio conglomerate

## American Embassy's National Daily Press Review

MARCH 07, 2014

### Today's Top Stories

1. United States supports rehabilitation of office of the Speaker of the National Assembly
2. Ivoirian government announces strategic plan to boost private sector
3. According to West African Central Bank, 7 % economic growth expected in the sub region
4. Amnesty International speaks out on violence against LGBT

#### 1. United States supports rehabilitation of office of the Speaker of the National Assembly

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/491035.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/les-etats-unis-livrent-les-bureaux-du-president-de-l-assemblee-nationale-14562.html>
- <http://mali-web.org/afrique/cote-divoire-les-etats-unis-livrent-les-bureaux-du-president-de-l-assemblee-nationale>
- <http://www.icilome.com/nouvelles/news.asp?id=13&idnews=777263>

At an event yesterday at the Ivoirian National Assembly, U.S. Ambassador to Cote d'Ivoire Terence McCulley and Assembly Speaker Guillaume Soro cut a ribbon on the speaker's refurbished offices reports **Nord Sud Quotidien (p. 2)**. The offices were damaged by a fire in 2009, then further looted during the post-electoral crisis of 2011. The paper quotes Soro as saying that with the new offices, "I will be closer to the parliamentary administration and closer to my colleagues," and added that "It is important for deputies to have decent work facilities."

During his remarks, Ambassador McCulley noted that the work is part of the on-going U.S. support for Ivoirian institutions. "A competent National Assembly is a cornerstone for a stable and committed democracy," the Ambassador is quoted as saying. He also underscored the importance of building the capacities of Ivoirian assembly members especially in advance of the 2015 elections. **Fraternite Matin (p.7)** adds that the work was carried out by USAID at a cost of \$300,000.

According to **Le Nouveau Reveil (p. 5)**, Soro called on other international partners to help rehabilitate the entire National Assembly facility, saying that it would cost approximately CFA nine billion (\$20 million).

#### 2. Ivoirian government announces strategic plan to boost private sector

- [http://www.gouv.ci/actualite\\_1.php?recordID=4322](http://www.gouv.ci/actualite_1.php?recordID=4322)
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/491081.html>
- [http://www.linfordrome.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=14922:kablan-duncan-pm-54-des-entreprises-ont-un-fonds-de-roulement-negatif&catid=10:societe&Itemid=112](http://www.linfordrome.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=14922:kablan-duncan-pm-54-des-entreprises-ont-un-fonds-de-roulement-negatif&catid=10:societe&Itemid=112)

Prime Minister Daniel Kablan Duncan announced yesterday that the government has adopted a four-year strategic plan aimed at boosting the strength of the private sector reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 16)**. The plan, called *Programme Nationale Restructuration et de Mise à Niveau* (PNRMN), will be a private-public partnership. According to the paper, the project will invest CFA 152.6 billion (\$322 million) into 150 companies over the next four years. Duncan is quoted as saying, "The government's goal in implementing this project is to increase the share of the Ivoirian private sector to 40 percent of the economy, which is the standard for emerging countries."

In **Le Nouveau Reveil (p. 9)**, Duncan is quoted as saying that this plan will increase competitiveness which is a prerequisite for economic growth. At the same event, the Minister of Industry and Mines, Jean Claude Brou, added that similar programs have been implemented in other countries, such as Morocco.

#### 3. According to West African Central Bank, seven percent economic growth expected in the sub region

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/491010.html>



- [http://www.lepatriote.net/actualite\\_det.php?id=2233](http://www.lepatriote.net/actualite_det.php?id=2233)

The West African Central Bank (BCEAO) says that the economy of the region is expected to grow by seven percent in 2014 reports **Soir Info (p. 10)**. The bank notes that economic activities have been steadily on the rise and this trend is expected to continue. The paper adds that the inflation rate in the region went down in 2013 0.2 percent from 2.8 percent in December 2012.

In **Le Nouveau Reveil (p. 9)**, the paper notes that the growth is attributable to two factors: the reduction in the global cost of oil and better control of the price of staple foods.

#### **4. Amnesty International speaks out on violence against LGBT community**

At a workshop yesterday in Abidjan focused on fighting discrimination in society and violence towards women, officials from Amnesty International spoke out against violence against the LGBT community reports **L'Inter (p. 12)**. President of the Ivoirian chapter of Amnesty International Natalie Koakou said, "We have no right to be violent or kill others," and added, "We condemn anyone or any state engaged in this type of violence toward the LGBT community." Koakou also is reported as saying that all people have the right to choose with whom they want to live or how they want to live.

In addition, another Amnesty official, Ismaila Kengoye, said that the organization will also take steps to address teenage pregnancy. In 2013, a total of 5,064 pregnancies were reported among school age girls.

#### International Stories on Cote d'Ivoire

##### [Côte d'Ivoire passes mining code, aims to double gold output](#)

Creamer Media's Mining Weekly

Ivory Coast has set ambitious targets for mining, which accounts for just 1% of gross domestic product (GDP) compared to agriculture's 30%. It aims to ...

##### [DekelOil's palm oil mill in Ivory Coast fully operational in fortnight](#)

Proactive Investors UK

Lincoln Moore, director at DekelOil (LON:DKL) tells Proactiveinvestors says the company's crude palm oil extraction mill in Ivory Coast could be fully ...

##### [Ivory Coast Hoping UN Will Lift Diamond Export Ban](#)

Resource Investing News

Reuters reported that next month, the Ivory Coast plans to pressure the United Nations to lift a ban on its diamond exports. The UN Security Council ...

##### [DekelOil receives 13-year tax holiday on production in Ivory Coast](#)

Proactive Investors Australia

Palm oil producer DekelOil (LON:DKL) said it has received a 13-year exemption from tax on profits made from its Ivory Coast plant. The incentive ...

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## American Embassy's National Daily Press Review

MARCH 06, 2014

### Today's Top Stories

1. Ivoirian foreign minister announces measures to streamline diplomatic corps
2. An unidentified gang set fire on a village in southeastern Cote d'Ivoire
3. The Ivoirian government takes steps to regulate gold mining
4. Head of Cambodian National Assembly expected in Abidjan tomorrow
5. National Democratic Institute trains civil society groups on biometric registration

#### **1. Ivoirian foreign minister announces measures to streamline diplomatic corps**

Minister of Foreign Affairs Charles Koffi Diby announced yesterday a series of changes to the diplomatic corps reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 6)**. According to the report, the position of a "deputy ambassador" will be created at Ivoirian Embassies to increase the number of diplomats overseas from the current 139 to 250. Diby also announced the creation of a new institute to train career diplomats. Since Diby took the position, the paper reports, the number of countries with Ivoirian diplomatic representation has gone from 94 to 175.

**Le Patriote (p. 2)** reports that the head of the foreign diplomatic corps in the country, Monsinger Joseph Spiteri, commended Ivoirians for taking these steps. He is reported as saying, "Cote d'Ivoire is changing to again become the crossroads of the sub region and is now in peace."

#### **2. An unidentified gang set fire on a village in southeastern Cote d'Ivoire**

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/490919.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/un-village-de-grabo-incendie-par-des-inconnus-14479.html>

A report in **Le Nouveau Reveil (p. 3)** says that the small village of Djimane, along the Ivoirian-Liberian border, was largely burned down by unknown gang on Sunday evening. The attackers allegedly set fire to homes and then returned to the Liberian side of the border. The paper notes that no casualties were reported as the village was largely empty after residents fled the region following a string of attacks several weeks ago. Local authorities say they are monitoring the situation.

#### **3. The Ivoirian government takes steps to regulate gold mining**

- <http://fr.africatime.com/cote-d-ivoire/articles/orpillage-le-gouvernement-veut-organiser-et-encadrer-lactivite>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/490918.html>
- [http://www.gouv.ci/actualite\\_1.php?recordID=4318](http://www.gouv.ci/actualite_1.php?recordID=4318)

In an effort to better control illegal gold mining in the country, **Fraternite Matin (p. 15)** reports that the Ivoirian government has taken new steps to tighten regulations. At an event yesterday in Abidjan, Prime Minister Daniel Kablan Duncan announced that all operators of gold mining businesses, even small, local enterprises, will have to be registered with the government. The decision, the paper says, will help avoid conflicts such as one that took place last year between rival mining camps in Angovia, where two people were killed. The measures will also help to combat child labor.

According to **Notre Voie (p. 7)** the new measures will also help control pollution and the use of chemicals that destroy agriculture and water sources.

#### **4. Head of Cambodian National Assembly expected in Abidjan tomorrow**

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/490952.html>
- [http://www.linodrome.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=14911:activites-parlementaires-le-president-cambodgien-a-abidjan&catid=8&Itemid=110](http://www.linodrome.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=14911:activites-parlementaires-le-president-cambodgien-a-abidjan&catid=8&Itemid=110)
- <http://www.fratmat.info/une/item/13519-coop%C3%A9ration-le-chef-du-parlement-cambodgien-annonc%C3%A9-%C3%A0-abidjan>

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/490971.html>
- <http://www.lintelligentdabidjan.net/?p=2141>

The president of the National Assembly in Cambodia, Heng Samrin, will arrive in Abidjan tomorrow for a two day visit reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 7)**. The purpose of the visit will be to discuss commerce, trade and security measures. The president of the Ivoirian National Assembly, Guillaume Soro, met with Samrin during his visit to Asia last fall.

**Nord Sud (p. 3)** reports that in addition to meeting with Soro, Samrin will hold meetings with other government officials and will be accompanied by a 15 person delegation that includes five members of the Cambodian legislature.

#### **5. National Democratic Institute trains civil society groups on biometric registration**

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/490858.html>
- <http://www.fratmat.info/une/item/13477-%C3%A9lections-2015-une-occasion-pour-le-pays-de-%E2%80%98%E2%80%98reprendre-sa-place-de-mod%C3%A8le-r%C3%A9gional%E2%80%99%E2%80%99>
- <http://fr.africetime.com/cote-d-ivoire/articles/cote-divoire-ouverture-dun-seminaire-international-sur-lenregistrement-biometrique-des>
- <http://www.alvinet.com/actualite/articles/cote-d-ivoire-ouverture-d-un-seminaire-international-sur-l-enregistrement-biometrique-des-electeurs-20547127.html>

The National Democratic Institute (NDI) is leading a workshop on biometric data this week reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 7)**. According to the NDI director for Africa, Christopher Fomunyoh, "Biometric data is more commonly being used for voter registration because it leads to more complete registrations and more credible and inclusive elections." However, the paper says that Fomunyoh warned, "If done improperly it can become a tool of manipulation," thus the reason for the training.

The participants in the workshop, the paper reports, are civil society groups that will be involved in the 2015 presidential election, as well as representatives from other African countries such as Ghana, Malawi, Sierra Leone, Liberia and Nigeria. At the opening ceremonies for the workshop, the deputy chief of mission for the U.S. Embassy in Cote d'Ivoire, Cheryl Sim, commended the NDI for their expertise on the issue and said that this training will help Ivoirians capitalize on the progress made towards more democratic elections since the presidential election of 2010, the legislative elections of 2011 and local elections in 2013.

#### International Stories on Cote d'Ivoire

##### Ivory Coast to press UN next month to lift diamond export ban

Reuters

ABIDJAN, March 4 (Reuters) - Ivory Coast will press the United Nations to lift a ban on its diamond exports next month having received a clean bill of ...

##### Côte d'Ivoire passes mining code, aims to double gold output

Creamer Media's Mining Weekly

ABIDJAN – Lawmakers in Côte d'Ivoire have approved a long-awaited mining code the West African country hopes will draw in more investors as it ...

##### Dekeloil Secures 13-Year Tax Exemption From Ivory Coast For Mill

London South East

LONDON (Alliance News) - Dekeloil PLC Wednesday said it has successfully met the conditions regarding its tax exemption application in the Ivory ...

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UN-owned radio operated by the UN Operation in Cote d'Ivoire

[RTI Television](#)

Government-run television and radio conglomerate

## American Embassy's National Daily Press Review

MARCH 05, 2014

### Today's Top Stories

1. PDCI president Henri Konan Bedie concerned by security situation
2. Ivoirian navy receive new equipment
3. Liberian President Sirleaf likely pick as next ECOWAS chair
4. State broadcasting journalist picked as new head of Ivoirian journalists
5. Forces Nouvelles leave electoral body

#### 1. PDCI president Henri Konan Bedie concerned by security situation

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/490848.html>
- <http://www.lintelligentdabidjan.net/?p=2105>
- <http://fr.africatime.com/cote-d-ivoire/articles/bureau-politique-du-pdci-apres-lattaque-de-grabo-et-les-violences-luniversite-bedie-met-en>
- <http://www.cafeaboki.com/cote-d-ivoire/politique/96708-bureau-politique-du-pdci-apr%C3%A8s-l%E2%80%99attaque-de-grabo-et-les-violences-%C3%A0-l%E2%80%99universit%C3%A9-b%C3%A9di%C3%A9-met-en-garde-contre-les-erremments-du-pass%C3%A9-et-pr%C3%A9pare-sa-succession.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/apres-l-attaque-de-grabo-et-les-violences-a-l-universite-bedie-met-en-garde-contre-les-erremments-du-passe-et-prepare-sa-succession-14411.html>

During an internal meeting of the PDCI political party, the long-time head of the party, former president Henri Konan Bedie, said he was "concerned" by the security situation in Cote d'Ivoire reports **L'Intelligent d'Abidjan (p. 8)**. Bedie called on the Ivoirian government to address security issues, especially the on-going situation at the national university. "We should not repeat past mistakes," Bedie is quoted as saying.

On the opposition side, **Notre Voie (p. 2)** carries a similar story, adding that Bedie said that the recent attack in the border town of Grabo could affect investor confidence in the country.

#### 2. Ivoirian navy receive new equipment

A story in government paper **Fraternite Matin (p. 8)** reports that the Ivoirian minister in charge of defense, Paul Koffi Koffi, presented new equipment to Ivoirian naval forces at an event yesterday. The equipment includes 26 small zodiac boats, GPS equipment, radios and diving gear totaling CFA 13 billion (\$27 million). The equipment is intended to improve the navy's ability to patrol Ivoirian waters the paper adds. "We now have the ability to patrol all Ivoirian waters from Abidjan to the border of Ghana and Assine to the Liberian border," the paper quotes Koffi Koffi as saying.

**L'Inter (p. 7)** says that the head of the Ivoirian Navy, Vice-Admiral Djakaridja Konate, thanked Koffi Koffi for the equipment but followed with a request for storage facilities for the new equipment. The equipment is currently in temporary storage.

#### 3. Liberian President Sirleaf likely pick as next ECOWAS chair

**L'Intelligent (p. 7)** reports today that Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf is likely to be tapped as the next president of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), a position currently held by Ivoirian President Allasane Ouattara. The issue was reportedly discussed yesterday during a meeting between Ouattara and Burkina Faso President Blaise Compaore. The paper also reports that President Ouattara, if reelected in 2015, could be selected to lead the African Union.

#### 4. State broadcasting journalist picked as new head of Ivoirian journalists

- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/unjci-habiba-dembele-officiellement-installe-par-le-conseil-d-administration-14400.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/490809.html>



- <http://www.lebanco.net/banconet/bco21437.htm>
- <http://www.afropages.fr/RTI/unjci-habiba-dembele-officiellement-installe-a-la-tete-de-l-union.html>

Television journalist Habiba Dembele has been selected as the interim head of the national association of journalists (UNJCI) reports **L'Inter (p. 16)**. Dembele replaces Moussa Traore who was suspended on charges of attempting to bribe a fellow journalist. According to the head of the UNJCI board of directors, Magloire Diop, Dembele was a unanimous pick to lead the organization leading up to new elections, planned for later this year.

##### 5. Forces Nouvelles leave electoral body

- [http://www.linfodrome.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=14898:elections-generales-de-2015-konate-sidiki-confirme-le-depart-des-ex-rebelles-de-la-commission-electorale&catid=8&Itemid=110](http://www.linfodrome.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=14898:elections-generales-de-2015-konate-sidiki-confirme-le-depart-des-ex-rebelles-de-la-commission-electorale&catid=8&Itemid=110)

According to a story in opposition paper **Le Temps (p. 5)**, the Forces Nouvelles, the political arm of the former rebellion, has decided to remove their representation from the Independent Electoral Commission (CEI), the body in charge of elections in Cote d'Ivoire. According to the paper, this announcement came after a meeting recently where U.S. Ambassador to Cote d'Ivoire Terence McCulley called on the board to be reshuffled.

However, in **Soir Info (p. 4)**, Sideke Konate, a former minister and spokesperson for the Forces Nouvelles says that the decision for his group to leave the CEI came in response to a provision in the 2007 Ouagadougou Peace Agreement that stipulates that it leaves the CEI after the 2010 presidential elections.

International Stories on Cote d'Ivoire

English teachers from around the world gather at University

BG News

"Akwaba." In English it may look like a jumble of letters, but in Cote d'Ivoire, which is the Ivory Coast, the word means welcome. Amongst a group of ...

POC 2014: How will Africa achieve self-sufficiency in palm oil?

AgraNet (subscription)

Ivory Coast and Cameroon will produce significantly larger palm oil crops in the coming years, helping to reduce Africa's current reliance on imported ...

Media affiliation and circulation

**(Newspaper circulation figures represent average number of copies sold daily. Latest numbers as of December 31, 2013.)**

Fraternite Matin

Government-owned and controlled daily newspaper with the widest circulation

22,723 daily

Soir Info

Independent daily

17,378

Le Nouveau Reveil

Daily owned by the PDCI-RDA Party of former President Henri Konan Bedie

12,546 daily

Le Temps - (no current website)

Privately owned daily supportive of former President Gbagbo and his FPI party

11,883 daily

[L'Inter](#)

Independent daily that publishes mostly balanced news

10,457 daily

[Notre Voie](#)

Daily close to the FPI party of former President Laurent Gbagbo

8,547 daily

[Le Quotidien d'Abidjan](#)

Daily close to former President Laurent Gbagbo

6,771 daily

[Le Patriote](#)

Daily owned by President Ouattara's Rally of the Republicans Party

6,523 daily

[Nord-Sud Quotidien](#)

Daily close to National Assembly President Guillaume Soro

3,054 daily

[Le Nouveau Courrier](#)

Daily close to the FPI party of former President Laurent Gbagbo

2,999 daily

Le Mandat - (no current website)

Daily close to the PDCI-RDA Party of former President Henri Konan Bedie

2,833

[L'Expression](#) \_

Daily supportive of current president Alassane Ouattara

2,664 daily

[L'Intelligent d'Abidjan](#)

Privately-owned daily with mostly balanced news

2,571 daily

Le Jour Plus - (no current website)

Privately owned daily supportive of President Ouattara's Rally of the Republicans Party

2,221

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[Agence Ivoirienne de Presse](#)

Government-run news agency

[ONUCI FM](#)

UN-owned radio operated by the UN Operation in Cote d'Ivoire

[RTI Television](#)

Government-run television and radio conglomerate

## American Embassy's National Daily Press Review

MARCH 04, 2014

### Today's Top Stories

1. "The electoral body needs to be reshuffled," Ambassador McCulley says after a meeting with ruling RDR
2. Burkina Faso President Blaise Compaore to meet in Abidjan with his Ivoirian counterpart
3. ICC judges reiterate demand to Ivoirian authorities to hand over former youth leader Charles Ble Goude
4. Veteran political figure calls for amendments to the constitution, says the release of Gbagbo will not advance the reconciliation process
5. Situation still uncertain at Abidjan university

#### 1. "The electoral body needs to be reshuffled," Ambassador McCulley says after a meeting with ruling RDR,

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/490751.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/490751.html>
- [http://www.ivoiresogoma-info.com/index.php?option=com\\_k2&view=item&id=1050:semterence-patrick-mcculley-usa-apr%C3%A8s-une-rencontre-avec-le-rdr--%E2%80%9Cil-faut-recomposer-la-cei%E2%80%9D&Itemid=102](http://www.ivoiresogoma-info.com/index.php?option=com_k2&view=item&id=1050:semterence-patrick-mcculley-usa-apr%C3%A8s-une-rencontre-avec-le-rdr--%E2%80%9Cil-faut-recomposer-la-cei%E2%80%9D&Itemid=102)
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/sem-terence-patrick-mcculley-apres-une-rencontre-avec-le-rdr-il-faut-recomposer-la-cei-14351.html>
- [http://webplus.imatin.net/abidjan.net/58405\\_sem-terence-patrick-mcculley-usa-apres-une-rencontre-avec-le-rdr-ldquo-il-faut-recomposer-la-cei-rdquo](http://webplus.imatin.net/abidjan.net/58405_sem-terence-patrick-mcculley-usa-apres-une-rencontre-avec-le-rdr-ldquo-il-faut-recomposer-la-cei-rdquo)

A meeting yesterday between U.S. Ambassador to Cote d'Ivoire Terence McCulley and the interim secretary general of the ruling RDR party, Amamdou Soumahoro, and other party officials, focused on election reform reports **Le Patriote (p. 3)**. Ambassador McCulley is quoted as saying that it is necessary to revise the voter registry and the electoral governing body, the Independent Electoral Commission (CEI). The Ambassador is quoted as saying; "It's obvious that there is good faith among all the political actors to move towards these elections, but there first needs to be work on the list and on the election body." The paper also reports that the Ambassador said that these changes would allow for more peaceful and inclusive elections in 2015.

#### 2. Burkina Faso President Blaise Compaore to meet in Abidjan with his Ivoirian counterpart

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/490710.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/490742.html>
- <http://www.fratmat.info/politique/item/13453-visite-de-travail-et-d%E2%80%99amiti%C3%A9-le-pr%C3%A9sident-compaor%C3%A9-%C3%A0-abidjan-ce-mardi>
- [http://webplus.imatin.net/abidjan.net/58404\\_cooperation-visite-d-rsquo-amitie-et-de-travail-blaise-compaore-a-abidjan-pour-s-rsquo-entretenir-avec-ouattara-aujourd-rsquo-hui](http://webplus.imatin.net/abidjan.net/58404_cooperation-visite-d-rsquo-amitie-et-de-travail-blaise-compaore-a-abidjan-pour-s-rsquo-entretenir-avec-ouattara-aujourd-rsquo-hui)

The president of Burkina Faso, Blaise Compaore, is expected this afternoon in Abidjan reports **Fraternite Matin (p.6)**. According to the paper, the purpose of the working/friendly meeting is to discuss bilateral relations between the two countries. The paper adds that the Friendship and Cooperation Treaty (TAC) will be among the items discussed during their meetings. The two men will also discuss regional issues, specifically security in the sub-region. **L'Inter (p. 4)** adds that the meeting will also be an opportunity to discuss potential solutions to the on-going political crisis involving Compaore's ruling party in Burkina Faso. President Ouattara

sent National Assembly President Guillaume Soro last month to the country to help try and broker a deal between the ruling party and the opposition.

### **3. ICC judges reiterate demand to Ivoirian authorities to hand over former youth leader Charles Ble Goude**

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/490769.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/490712.html>
- <http://www.fratmat.info/une/item/13456-cpi-la-chambre-pr%C3%A9liminaire-i-r%C3%A9clame-l%E2%80%99extradition-de-bl%C3%A9-goud%C3%A9>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/449305.html>
- [http://www.imatin.net/article/politique/cpi-affaire-ble-goude-la-chambre-preliminaire-i-reclame-son-extradition\\_17336\\_1393917258.html](http://www.imatin.net/article/politique/cpi-affaire-ble-goude-la-chambre-preliminaire-i-reclame-son-extradition_17336_1393917258.html)

The International Criminal Court (ICC) issued a new statement yesterday, reiterating that the Ivoirian government should hand over former youth leader Charles Ble Goude to face charges reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 7)**, rejecting the government's request for additional time. The court cites an article from Rome Statue of the ICC that says that the Ivoirian government has "no other option" than to turn over the ally of former Ivoirian president Laurent Gbagbo, already facing charges at the ICC.

Ivoirian authorities are quoted as responding that not only is Ble Goude going to be tried for charges in Cote d'Ivoire, he is also needed for other, related cases. **Aujourd'hui (p. 4)** says that the ICC is "going too far" in demanding Ble Goude, calling the statement by the ICC "harassment."

### **4. Veteran political figure calls for amendments to the constitution, says the release of Gbagbo will not advance the reconciliation process**

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/490669.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/490740.html>

Morifere Bamba, president of the RPCI political party, a fringe party of the opposition, said that the Ivoirian constitution needs to be amended reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 9)**. Bamba, a long-time leader of the opposition, said specifically the provision that deals with eligibility of who can run for president, Article 35, needs attention. According to Bamba, the current law is the reason for much of the conflict during the past 20 years. He also says that the current proposal to add a vice president is not a good idea. In addition, the paper reports that Bamba says the electoral commission needs reforming with a board representative of the electorate with 50 percent ruling party and 50 percent opposition party members.

Bamba is also quoted in **L'Intelligent (p. 8)**, as saying that the release of former president Gbagbo is not a precondition to reconciliation and that all of those who committed crimes during the conflict should be tried.

### **5. Situation still uncertain at Abidjan university**

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/490726.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/490761.html>
- [http://www.linfodrome.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=14878:univer-site-felix-houphouet-boigny-des-enseignants-arretent-les-cours&catid=10:societe&Itemid=112](http://www.linfodrome.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=14878:univer-site-felix-houphouet-boigny-des-enseignants-arretent-les-cours&catid=10:societe&Itemid=112)

A report in **L'Intelligent (p. 6)**, reports that police at the national university – University Felix Houphouet-Boigny – will not leave the campus. An unnamed source is reported as saying that the order of the police is established by the government, so they will not leave until the government tells them to. This is in response to the announcement by the university leadership that all campus police have been suspended after several violent clashes with students.

**Soir Info (p. 10)** says that the strike by university instructors continues, despite the announcement by leadership saying that classes should have resumed yesterday. **Notre Voie (p. 6)** says that the strike is a result of the police remaining on campus.

International Stories on Cote d'Ivoire

[President Returns After Surgery in France](#)

AllAfrica.com

Cote d'Ivoire: Ivory Coast President Returns After Surgery in France. 2 March 2014. Thousands flooded the streets of Ivory Coast's commercial capital, ...

[UPDATE 1-Ivory Coast raises \\$315 million in regional bonds, hires banks for \\$500 mln in Eurobond](#)  
Reuters

Ivory Coast said earlier it would issue around \$1 billion in sovereign debt on ... Ivory Coast's 2032 Eurobond has emerged as one of non-oil producing ...

[Côte d'Ivoire/Liberia: Mother and children reunited after three years](#)  
Tolerance

Côte d'Ivoire/Liberia: Mother and children reunited after three years. Thousands of people fled violence in Côte d'Ivoire during the country's ...

[Liberians Involved - Gov't Confirms Mercenary Elements in Ivory Coast](#)  
AllAfrica.com

Let us be clear; please do not take this for a joke; Liberians are involved in the fighting in Cote D'ivoire (We respect Ivorian intelligence). We urge you ...

[Randgold Resources Ltd: Opportunities for gold miners in Africa](#)  
Wall Street Journal

Randgold operates gold mines in Mali, Cote d'Ivoire and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Speaking at the PDAC convention here, Bristow said the ...

Media affiliation and circulation  
**(Newspaper circulation figures represent average number of copies sold daily. Latest numbers as of September 30, 2013.)**

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Daily supportive of current president Alassane Ouattara

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Privately-owned daily with mostly balanced news

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Independent daily that publishes mostly balanced news

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Le Jour Plus - (no current website)

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Daily close to the PDCI-RDA Party of former President Henri Konan Bedie

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[Nord-Sud Quotidien](#)

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UN-owned radio operated by the UN Operation in Cote d'Ivoire

[RTI Television](#)

Government-run television and radio conglomerate



## American Embassy's National Daily Press Review

MARCH 03, 2014

### Today's Top Stories

1. Thousands pack the streets to welcome home President Ouattara
2. FPI youth leader upbeat on the release of former president Laurent Gbagbo, calls on supporters to remain mobilized
3. Following recent clashes with students, university police suspended
4. A state-of-the art cargo terminal to be built as part of Abidjan international airport extension project

#### 1. Thousands pack the streets to welcome home President Ouattara

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/490607.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/490643.html>
- <http://www.fratmat.info/une/item/13415-retour-du-chef-d%E2%80%99etat--une-mobilisation-exceptionnelle>
- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6095-alassane-ouattara-accueilli-en-triomphe-apres-un-s-jour-en-france-pour-une-op-ration..html>

All newspapers cover today the return to Cote d'Ivoire yesterday by Ivoirian President Alassane Ouattara. **Fraternite Matin (pp. 4-9)** says that in addition to thousands of supporters lining the route of the president's motorcade, the King of Morocco, Mohammed VI, was among the delegation that met the Ivoirian president upon his arrival.

In brief comments at the airport, Ouattara thanked his supporters and allies, including former president Henri Konan Bedie for their support. He also thanked religious and spiritual leaders for their prayers during his surgery and treatment in France. "As you can see, I have returned in good shape and am doing well," the paper reports him as saying. He also reportedly said that he was ready to get back to work and wants to speed up the reconstruction of the country.

On the opposition side, **Le Temps (p. 3)** reports that the president underwent surgery for his sciatic nerve and was leaning heavily on a cane at his arrival. As a result, the paper says that the president is "not as well as he says" and that doctors are still concerned about his health condition.

#### 2. FPI youth leader upbeat on the release of former president Laurent Gbagbo, calls on supporters to remain mobilized

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/490637.html>

Justin Koua, the leader of the youth arm of the FPI party, spoke at a rally in Yopougon over the weekend reports **Le Quotidien d'Abidjan (p. 4)**, where he is reported as saying that the release of former Ivoirian president Laurent Gbagbo will happen this year. He asked the supporters to "stay mobilized" throughout the country and to press for Gbagbo's release. "Any fight has its risks and sacrifices and we are ready to make them," he is quoted as saying. He also reiterated that any efforts towards peace and reconciliation hinge on the release of Gbagbo.

**Le Temps (p. 6)** reports that the FPI held similar meetings in other parts of the country. Last week, there were FPI rallies in Odienne, Ferke and Korhogo.

#### 3. Following recent clashes with students, university police suspended

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/490631.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/490647.html>
- <http://koaci.com/articles-90194>

According to a report in **Fraternite Matin (p. 12)**, leadership of University Felix Houphouet-Boigny, the national university in Abidjan, has decided to suspend the entire university police force after several violent incidents recently where police clashed with students. The paper adds that the president of the university, Professor Ly Ramata, condemned the assault by the police against students and expressed sympathy with people injured as a result. She also committed to pressing charges against anyone involved in the incidents.

**L'Intelligent d'Abidjan (pp. 8-9)** reports that 20 members of the police force were fired as a result of the incidents. At this time, the paper notes that classes are still suspended but talks are on-going about when they will resume.

#### **4. A state-of-the art cargo terminal to be built as part of Abidjan international airport extension project**

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/490626.html>
- <http://www.lintelligentdabidjan.net/?p=2032>

Prime Minister Daniel Kablan Duncan took part on Saturday in the groundbreaking of an extension the Abidjan International Airport reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 15)**. The extension will include a state-of-the-art cargo terminal that will open in 17 months. The project is financed by the Islamic Development Bank at a total cost of CFA 21 billion (\$44 million). Once finished, the project will make the airport a major hub in sub-Saharan Africa. The paper says that the new facility will allow the airport to greatly increase their storage and transportation capacity and will be an economic benefit to the Ivoirian economy. Duncan is also quoted as saying that, "Infrastructure such as this is part of conditions to promote stronger trade relations in the region."

International Stories on Cote d'Ivoire

[Ivory Coast Leader to Return From Medical Trip Sunday](#)

Tolerance

Ivory Coast Leader to Return From Medical Trip Sunday. Ivory Coast's President Alassane Ouattara made his first public appearance in weeks on ...

[8 people killed in bush fires in central Cote d'Ivoire](#)

Global Times

The practice of starting bush fires that has been widespread in Cote d'Ivoire's central region of Beoumi has left at least eight people dead, forest ...

[Ecobank Arranges Finances for Roads in Ivory Coast](#)

AllAfrica.com

The consortium of Ecobank Capital and Africa Link Capital arranges FCFA 130 billion (260 million U.S. dollars) financing for the Road Maintenance ...

[More Rwanda Police officers set-off for UN mission in Ivory Cost](#)

Rwanda News Agency (registration)

The officers work as mentors and advisors to the Ivory Coast Police force. Rwanda National Police maintains about 550 Police officers in eight ...

[cocoa farmers try chocolate for first time](#)

Herald Sun

Ivory Coast cocoa farmers try chocolate for first time. by: RICHARD QUEST; From: CNN; March 01, 2014 9:30PM. Increase Text Size · Decrease Text ...

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